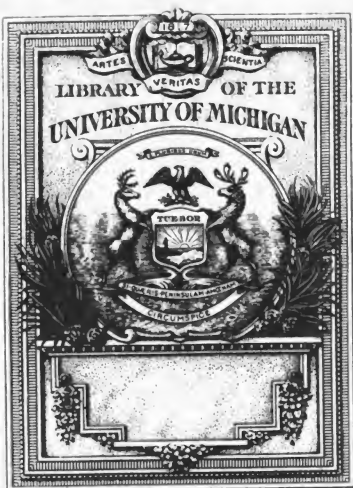
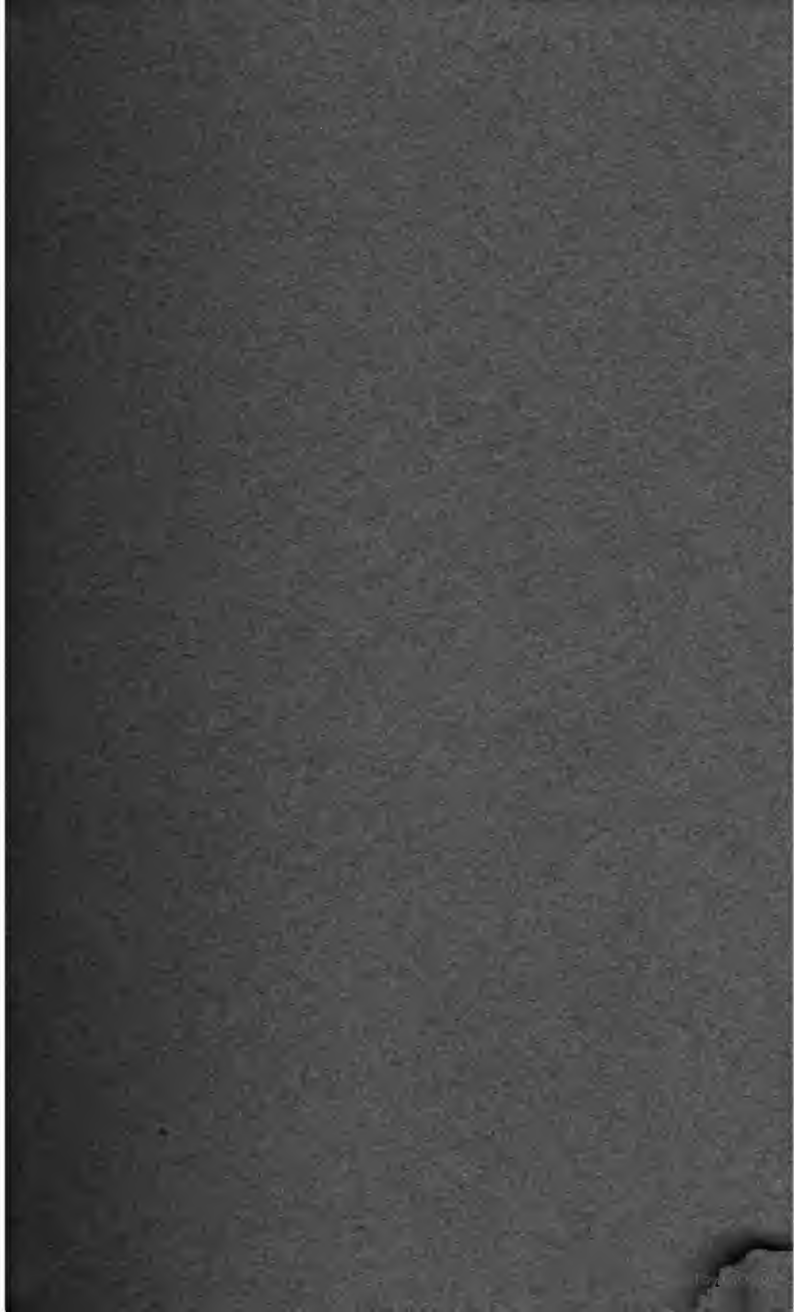




*Journal of a tour
in Ireland, A.D. 1806*

Richard Colt Hoare





William Steel

TOUR IN IRELAND,

A. D. 1806.

PRINTED BY WILLIAM SAVAGE, BEDFORD BURY.



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JOURNAL

OF

A TOUR IN IRELAND,

A. D. 1806.

BY

SIR RICHARD COLT HOARE, BART.

F.R.S. F.A.S.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR W. MILLER, ALBEMARLE STREET,
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PREFACE.

“Erranti, passimque oculos per cuncta tuenti.”

To the traveller, who fond of novelty and information, seeks out those regions, which may either afford reflection for his mind, or employment for his pencil, and especially to him, who may be induced to visit the neglected shores of HIBERNIA, the following pages are dedicated.

Whilst the opposite coasts of WALES and SCOTLAND, have for many successive years attracted the notice and admiration of the man of taste, and of the artist; whilst the press has so teemed with publications, pointing out their natural beauties, and works of military and monastick art,

that little more is left to be described; whilst WALES and SCOTLAND, I say, have had the assistance of the Historian's pen to record their annals, and of the artist's pencil to pourtray their natural and artificial curiosities; the Island of HIBERNIA still remains unvisited and unknown. And why? Because from the want of books, and living information, we have been led to suppose its country rude, its inhabitants savage, its paths dangerous. "Were we to take a view [says an Irish Historian] of the wretched condition in which the History of IRELAND stands, it would not be a matter of astonishment, that we should be considered as a people, in a manner unknown to the world, except what little knowledge of us is communicated by merchants, sea-faring men, and a few travellers; while all other nations of Europe have their historians, to inform their own people, as well as foreigners, what they were, and what they are *."

The love of literature, however, seems to

* Harris' Hibernica, 8vo. edit. p. 274.

be gaining ground daily in Ireland, as well as in the remoter districts of the sister kingdom*; and particularly that class of it which will tend ultimately to make its provinces more frequented, and better known; which will not only excite the attention of the *stranger*, but point out natural beauties and curiosities unexplored even by the *native*. I allude to the general Topography of the Country, which has received a *partial* illustration from the *Statistical Surveys* lately published†.

* Within these few years Book Societies have been established upon a most liberal and extensive scale, in the large trading towns of England, and upon a smaller scale in many of its villages; and I heard with much satisfaction from the Booksellers in Dublin, that all *new* publications were eagerly bought, and the *older* works, which treat of Irish History and antiquities, are not to be procured without much difficulty and research.

† Every lover of literature will be glad to hear, that *Dr. Beaufort*, the author of the excellent *Memoir and Map of Ireland*, is engaged in a topographical description of Ireland upon an enlarged scale; and much may be expected from his indefatigable zeal, and the knowledge he possesses of his native country. *A History of Dublin* has also been announced for publication, in which much new and accurate information may be expected from its authors, Mr. *Warburton*,

When we consider, that the first well-digested *Tour through Wales*, bears so late a date as 1781 *, and when we look over the voluminous list of subsequent publications on the same subject, that have issued from the press in the short period of twenty-five years, may we not expect that the same spirit of enquiry will extend itself gradually into this country ?

The English are regarded by foreigners as a *rambling* nation ; but I am proud to think, that this *vagabond* spirit arises, not from any dissatisfaction with our own home, our country, or our government ; for

Keeper of the Records, and the Rev. Mr. *Whitelawe*, who has already laid before the public, an interesting, though melancholy account, of the state of some parts of the metropolis.

Statistical accounts have been published of the Counties of *Dublin, Wicklow, Kilkenny, Queen's County, Cavan, Armagh, Monaghan, Meath, Down, Londonderry, Tyrone, Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, and Mayo*.

* *A Tour through North and South Wales*, by *H. P. Wyndham, Esq.* 1 vol. 4to. 1781. A small work, entitled, *A Gentleman's Tour in Wales*, was published by the same author, in 1774, and this is the *first* tour I recollect to have seen, that merits either credit or attention.

where shall we find their equals? "*Quando ullum invenies parem?*" but from a laudable desire of research and information. The spirit and even the power of *foreign* travel is now checked; we can no longer trace on the spot, those classical scenes described to us by the ancient Poets and Historians, and which in our younger days of study, we even *read* with enthusiasm; we can no longer in safety ascend the steps of the CAPITOL, nor wander peacefully along the luxuriant shores of BAIÆ or MISENUM; even the frozen regions of MONT BLANC are interdicted to us by the ferocious decrees of a CORSICAN DESPOT. Let not, however, that laudable spirit of enquiry droop, nor grow less active by such an unexpected interdiction.

Our own kingdom still remains unexplored; a kingdom abounding in a variety of the most amusing and instructive objects, suited to every taste, to every genius; a kingdom furnishing the most interesting and ample materials for the *pen* as well as for the *pencil*; a more intimate knowledge of which will, in the end, prove more satisfactory perhaps than the information collected

during a *foreign* tour. The knowledge of *one's self*, and of *one's country*, is truly desirable, but it is a knowledge that few are able, or bold enough to attain.

The traveller who makes IRELAND the object of his excursions, will experience a double mortification, in finding the books relating to that country so few, when compared to those descriptive of every other part of our kingdom ; and in finding so few amongst the natives who are able to give him such general information as he could wish, concerning the objects most worthy of his attention ; but he will every where find a *hand* ready to assist, and a *heart* open to receive, him in all his difficulties.

It is not my intention to give a *detailed* account of all the different publications that tend to illustrate the History of Ireland, but to mention a few only of those which I consider the most useful and important. They who are desirous of gaining more ample information on this subject, may consult Bishop NICHOLSON'S *Irish Historical Library*, and Sir James WARE'S account of Irish Writers.

Amongst the ancient manuscripts, the

Annals of Innisfallen, and the *Psalter of Cashel*, are the most frequently quoted, but it appears doubtful, if any *perfect* copy of either of them exist at this day:

Of old historians, we have GIRALDUS DE BARRI, or CAMBRENSIS, who wrote the *Topography* and *Vaticinal History of Ireland*, which was published in Latin by the celebrated Antiquary CAMDEN, in a folio volume, entitled, *Anglica, Hibernica, Normannica, Cambrica*. A translation of the *Vaticinal History*, which relates to the invasion of Ireland, by Earl STRONGBOW, in the year 1167, was made by JOHN HOOKER, and published (with a continuation to the year 1586), in the first volume of *Hollinshed's Chronicles*; in which also there is an old description of Ireland, by STANIHURST *.

* The literary world will be shortly gratified by a republication of this curious collection of *Chronicles*, which has been undertaken by a society of booksellers. Should success attend their undertaking, they purpose reprinting the whole of the *English Chronicles*, which for many years have been exceedingly scarce and dear. When we consider, that they form the groundwork, and very essence of our *English History*, it is singular, that they

A folio volume was published in the year 1662, by JOHN LYNCH, [under the feigned name of GRATIANUS LUCIUS,] entitled *Cambrensis eversus*, &c. in which he endeavours to expose the mistaken falsehoods and calumnies of GIRALDUS.

The miraculous stories which GIRALDUS recounts *most seriously* in his *Topography of Ireland*, are so truly ridiculous, that I could almost fancy, that by so doing, he meant to satirize the *credulity* of the Irish nation *.

should have remained unpublished for so long a time. May the spirited example of Mr. *Johnes*, who at his own expence has lately printed a magnificent edition of *Froissart*, be followed with success by the publishers of *Holinshed*!

* I cannot believe, that a man so learned, and so well versed in all the manuscripts of the classical authors, and a man so enlightened in the dark age in which he lived, could place either credit or confidence in those strange events which he so often relates: that he doubted of their truth, his own words will sufficiently testify: "*Scio tamen et certus sum, me nonnulla scripturum, quæ lectori vel impossibilia vel etiam ridiculosa videbuntur. Nec ego volo temerè credi cuncta quæ posui; quia nec à me ipso ità creduntur, tanquam nulla de eis sit in meâ cogitatione dubitatio.*"

To his second treatise upon the Invasion of Ireland by RICHARD STRONGBOW, ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN, and MAURICE FITZ-GERALD, we must give greater credit, though even in this work, he is accused by the Irish writers of partiality, and frequent misrepresentation: owing to his near relationship to the two latter chieftains, I will allow that his pen may sometimes have been guilty of *partiality*, but when we consider that this manuscript was composed in the year 1187, and only seventeen years after the invasion of Ireland took place, and when we consider also the near connexion between the *actors* and the *author*, who visited Ireland himself in the year 1183: we must not, I think, (as the Irish writers would wish us to do,) consider this history of GIRALDUS as a mere fable, or a miraculous tale.

GEOFFRY KEATING, an Irish priest, composed a history of his country, from the earliest times to the period of its invasion by the English, in the reign of King Henry the Second. This manuscript was translated into English, by DERMOD O'CONNOR, and printed, first in 1723, and

afterwards in a more costly manner in 1738. No great credit is allowed to this work by more modern historians. SIR RICHARD COX calls it "*an ill-digested heap of silly fictions*:" and PETER TALBOT styles it, "*Insigne planè, sed insanum opus*," and such indeed, on examination, it appears to be. This large volume is entirely devoted to the *early* history of the Irish, which, like that of all other nations, abounds in fable and fiction.

Another author, O'FLAHERTY, published a book, entitled, *Ogygia seu rerum Hibernicarum Chronologia*, A. D. 1685, which has been translated into English, and relates chiefly to the more ancient history of the country.

But the most esteemed and authentic Irish historians, overlooking the *early* and fabulous annals of their country, have commenced their histories from the period of the English invasion; amongst these is

SIR RICHARD COX, whose history is continued to the end of the reign of King CHARLES the SECOND.

Dr. WARNER published an History of Ireland, and of its Rebellion, in three

quarto volumes, 1763-7. This author neither wholly credits the histories of *Keating* and *O'Flaherty*, nor at the same time rejects them as *wholly* fabulous. He says, "The native Irish writers betray so much vanity, and deal so much in the fabulous, as gives an air of *romance* to the whole, or to speak of it in the most favourable and candid terms, as makes it appear to be a *mythological* rather than a *real* history." The first volume of his work, comprehends the ancient History of Ireland, to the period of the English invasion, wherein he endeavours to reconcile the traditions and apparent fictions of the Irish writers.

Dr. LELAND has published the same number of volumes in *quarto*. He begins at the period of the Invasion, in 1167, and terminates his work with the war of 1691.

The much esteemed Annals of Ireland, by SIR JAMES WARE, were first published in a small volume, 1654, and 1658, and being afterwards much enlarged, were reprinted in *folio* at Dublin, A. D. 1705.

The valuable manuscripts of this author were again revised by Mr. HARRIS, who

printed them in two thick *folio* volumes, A. D. 1764.

This work, which is now become exceedingly scarce, is by far the most esteemed book we have on Ireland.

The same author has also published, both in *folio* and *octavo*, a collection of treatises, entitled, *Hibernica*; amongst which is a curious account of the invasion of Ireland, written by MAURICE REGAN, servant and interpreter to DERMOD MAC MURROGH, King of LEINSTER.

The *Pacata Hibernia*, by CAREW, is a valued work and the *Life of King William III.* by HARRIS, contains many interesting plans and views of the different sieges, battles, &c. that took place in Ireland during his reign.

There are besides several detached histories of particular epocha. FYNES MORYSON, in his *Book of Travels*, has given a detailed account of the rebellion of HUGH, EARL OF TYRONE, from the year 1599, to 1603. The Poet EDMUND SPENSER, SIR JOHN DAVIS, SIR JOHN TEMPLE, LORD CLARENDON, and SIR WILLIAM PETTY, have each written political treatises on this

country; and the Memoirs of the DUKE of ORMOND, by CARTE, and of LORD CLANRICARDE, throw much light upon the affairs of Ireland.

The *Monasticon* of Mr. ARCHDALE, contains a most valuable collection of monastick annals. A *Monasticon* was printed in the year 1722, in *octavo*; but in every respect inferior to the more enlarged edition, in *quarto*, edited by Mr. ARCHDALE.

The *Collectanea de Rebus Hibernicis*, published by General VALLANCEY, and extending to six *octavo* volumes, contain many curious and learned treatises, particularly on the origin, language, and manners, of the ancient Irish. There are also several volumes published of the *Transactions of the Irish Society*.

Dr. LEDWICH has published a large *quarto* volume, embellished with plates, and containing a valuable collection of papers relating to the various antiquities of Ireland. The *second* edition of this work is considerably augmented.

Mr. GROSE, in his two *folio* volumes of Antiquities, has illustrated, by views and short descriptions, the greater part of the

most remarkable castles and abbies in Ireland; and Mr. MALTON has engraved a magnificent series of the principal buildings in DUBLIN.

Of *Parochial* and *County History*, the catalogue is short. The city of DUBLIN has been described by Mr. HARRIS, and by Mr. FERRAR; the Counties of CORK, KERRY, and WATERFORD, by Dr. SMITH, and that of LIMERICK, by Mr. FERRAR; there is also an *octavo* volume, describing the County of DOWN; and in VALLANCEY'S *Collectanea*, there is an old account of WEST MEATH, by Sir HENRY PIERS, and the History of IRISH-TOWN, or KILKENNY.

The list of *Tours* also is very scanty, and very imperfect, if I except the excellent *Letters on the Coast of Antrim*, by the unfortunate Mr. HAMILTON, who fell a sacrifice to the fury of the rebels, during the disturbances in 1797.

Twiss published a very cursory Tour through the Northern and Southern Provinces, in 1775; and Dr. WATKINSON another, through the latter provinces only, in the same year. Since that period, a short Tour through the Southern Provinces, in

1797, has been published by HOLMES; and there is a collection of Letters, by BUSH, entitled, *Hibernia curiosa*, 1769; giving a particular account of the GIANT'S CAUSEWAY. These may be distinguished by the title of *Picturesque Tours*. That by ARTHUR YOUNG, in the years 1776-7 and 8, is more properly styled an *Agricultural Tour*; but the observations of this well-known author are so just, and his descriptions of natural scenery so accurate, and at the same time so animated, that all future Tourists will have reason to regret, that his remarks were so much confined to one favourite subject.

But in one, and to the generality of travellers, the most *important* respect, the Irish Tourist may think himself fortunate, in having two good maps, and an excellent *Itinerary*, to direct his steps. The Map by TAYLOR is the best for travellers, but that by Dr. BEAUFORT, annexed to his Memoir, is much fuller, and contains the names of many more places: it is more properly called an *Ecclesiastical Map* of Ireland. There is also a Book of Roads, by TAYLOR and SKINNER, which may be

found useful. The *best* Itinerary is that by WILSON, entitled, the *Post Chaise Companion*, and far superior to the one lately published by SLEATER. It is indeed the *best* *Iter* I ever saw, as it points out the greater part of the antiquities and objects worthy of notice. The descriptions of the two *Irish wonders*, the LAKE OF KILLARNEY, and the GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, are ample, and well drawn up. In two respects only, it seems to fail, namely, in giving more merit and beauty to the gentlemen's demesnes than they deserve, and in not pointing out to the traveller, the best inns on the road, and those especially where he can find a supply of post horses.

Dr. BEAUFORT'S *Memoir*, and SEWARD'S *Topographical Dictionary*, will be found useful books. There is also an *octavo* volume of well-written Letters on the Irish Nation, by Mr. COOPER, which will both amuse and instruct the reader. The *Almanack* and *Register*, published annually, will give every necessary information respecting the City of DUBLIN, its officers of state, &c. &c.

The voluminous works of PLOWDEN, Sir RICHARD MUSGRAVE, and Mr. GORDON,

will afford ample details of the late Irish Rebellion in 1798.

The beautiful scenery of KILLARNEY, has lately been most fully illustrated, with ample descriptions, and many highly finished engravings, by a well-known traveller, ISAAC WELD, Esq. and supplies one of the great topographical *desiderata* of Ireland. The coast of ANTRIM would furnish materials for an equally interesting volume, and form a fine contrast, between the *beautiful* and the *savage* features of nature.

Having slightly mentioned those authors, whose works appear to throw the greatest light upon the History and Antiquities of Ireland, [a previous reference to which will be highly useful to those who intend visiting that country *,] I shall add a few words re-

* All who travel with a view to gain information, well know the inconvenience, nay, the *impossibility* of taking with them *many* books. Previous information therefore should be gained from the library *at home*; the outline of the intended tour sketched out, and short extracts made of the most remarkable objects and historical events that are likely to occur, and attach to it. And here let me endeavour to impress on the minds of the *younger* part of my readers, the great utility of keeping a *Journal*. It is even useful *at home* to note down daily

specting the mode of *travelling* in Ireland.

The love of liberty and independence is by nature implanted in the breast of every Englishman; it is not only his birth-right, but his guide and upholder through life. On no occasion, and in no place, will *independence* be more requisite, or more useful, than during the progress of an *Irish Tour*. The traveller must not expect to find those comforts and conveniences which he will meet with on the Bath road, or even in many of the remotest provinces of England; he must not expect to find post chaises and post horses, ready at a moment's notice, to waft him from the LAKE OF KILLARNEY to the GIANT'S CAUSEWAY; for these accommodations are to be found only on the great roads of communication from one city to another. On the *cross* roads, he must bear with patience the delays of postboys, and the indifference of postmasters; his purse will be taxed, and his time lost. To remedy

occurrences, but infinitely more so *abroad*; it assists the mind in recollecting passed scenes, and improves it by describing them; and by causing *observation*, it enforces *instruction*.

these inconveniences, the tourist must make himself *independent*, by being his own post-master, and his own post boy ; in short, he must travel with his own carriage, and with his own horses ; all difficulties will then cease ; for if he makes a proper choice of resting places, and avoids such a *gite* as BALYSHANNON (more of which hereafter) all will go on smoothly ; for he will find excellent roads, with better inns and fare than he would expect from the descriptions he has heard, and the impressions he may have formed of the general state of the country.

The traveller also who does not, previous to his journey, supply his purse with the necessary provision of cash and notes, will be subject to repeated delays and impositions during his progress. These may be avoided by exchanging at Dublin his English money into Irish, or by supplying himself solely with the latter, which I think the most advisable.

The coin, or rather the tokens of the country, are six shilling, ten-penny, and five-penny pieces. The difference between the English and the Irish currency, is one penny in every shilling ; so that the guinea

passes for £.1. 2s.9d. Irish ; but a premium varying from one to two or three shillings, according to the fluctuation of exchange, is given for them ; so that the English traveller should exchange his guineas into Irish money at Dublin. The English shillings, if good, will sometimes, but not always, pass in the provinces : some object to them, if there is no impression of the head ; and others weigh them with a little machine made for that purpose. Dollars also are current at 5s. 5d. but the supplies that will be found most convenient, are Bank of Ireland Notes, and the several Irish tokens, which may be procured in *rouleaus* at the National Bank, or will be supplied by your banker. With these you will have no difficulty in paying your bills on the road, and avoid the necessity of taking in exchange any of the small Irish shilling notes, many of which, as well as others of larger amount, are forged.

From no one circumstance during my *first* Southern Tour, did I experience more delay or inconvenience, which were obviated during my Northern Tour, by the provision of tokens. It is necessary however to hint to the traveller, on leaving Dublin, to

leave his tokens behind him, for they will not prove current in Wales.

If by a faithful description of the large tract of country I have lately traversed, I can either contribute to the amusement or information of any *future* tourist in Ireland; if I can in any degree smooth his path, or lighten his burden; or if I can so far excite the curiosity of the *natives*, as to induce them to complete the outline of my imperfect sketch, the end of this publication will be fully answered; and if either through ignorance or inattention, I may have committed any local or historical errors; let the failings of human nature, the novelty of the subject, and the words of my friend GIRALDUS, plead before the public in my behalf.

“ *Et quoniam nihil humanum omninò perfectum, omniumque habere notitiam, et in nullo peccare, potius divinitatis est, quàm humanitatis; errores fortè, si quâ ex parte irrepserunt, tàm imperfectionis conditio, quàm ipsa locorum distantia reddat veniales.* ”

INTRODUCTION.

VARIOUS have been the names given to this island, and as various have been the accounts of its original inhabitants. By CÆSAR and TACITUS, it was distinguished from Britain by the name of HIBERNIA: by PTOLEMY, the Geographer, by that of IVERNIA. DIODORUS SICULUS calls it IRIS; and STRABO, IERNE; to the latter of which, the Irish name of ERIN bears an affinity. It bore also the appellation of SCOTIA: and though OROSIUS gives it the title of HIBERNIA, he styles its inhabitants SCOTI: "*Sed a Scotorum gentibus colitur.*" Archbishop USHER* says, "that it was not till after the coalition between the Scots and the Picts in the eleventh century, that both nations, viz. IRELAND and the modern SCOTLAND came promiscuously to be called SCOTLAND: and even then all correct writers, in mentioning the two coun-

* This learned writer, speaking of the eleventh century, says, "*Neminem qui toto antecedentium annorum spatio scripserit, produci posse arbitramur qui Scotiæ appellatione Albaniam unquam designaverit.*"

tries, distinguished them by *Vetus et nova Scotia, major, or minor, ulterior and citerior.*" Yet Ireland seems to have retained the name of SCOTIA till the fifteenth century, at which period it is mentioned as such by foreign writers.

As to its original inhabitants, it is most probable, that IRELAND, as well as ENGLAND, were peopled from the neighbouring Continent of GAUL; first by the CELTIC, and afterwards by the BELGIC tribes; and this supposition is corroborated, if not proved, by our adoption of the same names of people and places, as used by them. Some authors contend, that the name of SCOTI is derived from the SCYTHI and SCYTHIA; and that of HIBERNI and HIBERNIA, from IBERIA and the IBERI, in Spain: others claim for their country a PHÆNICIAN and MILESIAN origin; and others get so deeply involved in the labyrinth of fable and romance, that they cannot with any degree of plausibility extricate themselves from it.

It appears however clear, that at a very early period, and at a time when the greater portion of Europe laboured under the oppression of Gothic ignorance, IRELAND became a celebrated seat of learning and religion. After the propagation of Christianity, it was dignified with the title of INSULA SANCTORUM, or the Isle of Saints; so great was the number of holy

men it produced in the fifth and two following centuries, and so many were the missionaries it sent forth to propagate the Christian faith in other parts of the world. "Hither, says an Irish historian, the sciences fled for protection, and here their followers and professors were amply supported. The City of ARMAUGH had no fewer than seven thousand scholars studying at the same time, within its university, although the kingdom contained several other academies equally celebrated, if not equally numerous*." In the middle of the seventh century, (A.D. 646) we learn from BEDE, that many of the higher and lower order of Anglo-Saxons, retired from their own country into this island: some to indulge their taste for reading, others to lead a life of stricter observance and solitude; all of whom the *Scots* received with cordiality, lending them books, and affording them gratuitous instruction, as well as daily sustenance.

† The learning, religion, and hospitality for

* O'Connor, Dissertations on the History of Ireland, p. 204.

† "Erant ibidem (*in Hiberniâ*) eo tempore (A. D. 664) multi nobilium simul et mediocrium de gente Anglorum, qui relictâ insulâ patriâ, vel divinæ lectionis, vel continentioris vitæ gratiâ illò secesserant; et quos omnes *Scotti* libertissimè suscipientes, victum eis quotidianum sine pretio, libros quoque ad legendum, et magisterium gratuitum præbere curabant.

Bede Hist. Eccles. lib. iii. cap. 27.

which IRELAND was at this period so justly celebrated, arose from its numerous monastick establishments. Unprofitable as they may be deemed, in these our more enlightened days, when the sciences are no longer immured within the walls of a cloyster, and the seeds of knowledge are so widely spread over the whole face of the globe, when the hands of the Capucin Friar can be more usefully employed than in begging charity ; and the labour of his sturdy limbs contribute towards the service of the community, yet, at a more remote period, these religious establishments were highly beneficial. The Anachorite fixed his abode in some solitary vale ; the sanctity and morality of his life, imparted a high degree of reverence to the spot after his decease ; and the stately abbey sprang up from the ruins of the Hermit's humble cell. Hither the learned resorted ; here the ancient manuscripts were collected ; here religion and learning found a safe and peaceful asylum. The monks imparted their knowledge and doctrines to numerous students, who disseminated them widely over the world ; neither have their public services been confined to the cloyster ; for they were extended to the cultivation of the wildest desert, and most barren wilderness : and thus, by the sanctity of their morals, and by their enlightened understandings *within* doors, and their

industrious labours *wihtout*, they at once instructed, civilized, and benefited mankind.

IRELAND seems to have enjoyed a continued state of peace and prosperity till near the end of the seventh century, when it was invaded by order of EGFRID, King of the NORTHUMBRIANS, and its lands, churches, and monasteries, were laid waste.

“ *Anno sexcentesimo octogesimo quarto, (A.D. 684) Ecgfrid, Rex Nordanhymbrorum, misso Hiberniam cum exercitu duce Bercto, vastavit miserè gentem innoxiam, et nationi Anglorum semper amicissimam: ita ut ne Ecclesiis quidem, aut monasteriis manus parceret hostilis.* ”

Bedæ Hist. Eccles. lib. iv. cap. 26.

Towards the close of the eighth, or the beginning of the ninth century, this country was invaded by a formidable band of northern barbarians*, who continued their depredations with success for a long series of years. Amongst their leaders, TURGESIUS, a Norwegian, distinguished himself by his tyrannical and daring spirit. According to GIRALDUS, he landed on the Irish coast in the year 838 †, and by his

* These northern invaders have been distinguished by a great variety of names, viz. *Norwegians, Danes, &c. Ostmen, or East-men*, by the English; and *Duff-Galls, Fin-Galls*, (black and white foreigners) by the Irish.

† Dr. Leland, in his *History of Ireland*, dates the landing of *Turgesius*, in the year 815; and Mr. Harris, in his *History of*

successful victories, gained possession of a large district; but this author rather transgresses the bounds of truth, when he says, "that in a short time TURGESIUS conquered the *whole* Island;" "*totam sibi insulam in brevi subjugavit.*" The curious circumstances attending the death of this tyrant, who ruled in Ireland for the long period of thirty years*, will be related hereafter.

But the Norwegians, or Ostmen†, undaunted by the death of their countryman, shortly after reappeared on the coasts of IRELAND, not in warlike array, but under the specious pretence of trade and commerce, "*non in bellicâ classe, sed sub pacis obtentu, et quasi mercaturæ exercendæ prætextu.*" They were headed by

Dublin, fixes the landing of the *Ostmen*, A. D. 838, agreeing with *Giraldus*; but he places the death of *Turgesius* in 845.

* Annos igitur circiter triginta *Norwagiensium* pompa et *Turgesii* tyrannis in *Hiberniâ* perduravit: et deinde gens *Hibernica*, servitute depulsa et pristinam libertatem recuperavit, et ad regni gubernacula denuo successit.

Giraldi Topog. Hib. p. 749.

† In the Irish History these Norwegians, or Danes, are better known by the name of *Ostman*, or *Eastmen*.

"Gens igitur hæc, quæ nunc *Ostmanica* gens vocatur, in primis terræ istius Regibus satis tractabiles fuerunt et pacifici. Sed ex quo in immensum generis numerositate jam excreverant, et civitates fossatis et muris optimè cinxerant, antiquas inimicitias, altâ mente repostas, nonnunquam renovare, et acriter rebellare solebant."

Giraldus, p. 750.

three brothers, AULAF, SYTRIC, and IVOR, who were so well received by the Irish, and conducted themselves with such precaution and address, that they shortly got possession of the three important cities of DUBLIN, WATERFORD, and LIMERICK*. Profiting by the supineness of the natives, who were continually engaged, either in external feuds, or domestic broils, this warlike and commercial people strengthened the cities they had already obtained, and extended their power by further encroachments on the territory of the Irish.

For the long protracted period of nearly three hundred years, (from the death of TURGESIUS, in 868 †, to the landing of the English in 1169) the Irish annals present only a continued detail of intestine wars between the natives and the Ostmen.

* Giraldus, alluding to the natural indolence of the Irish nation; says, that the Norwegians were received by the common consent of the whole kingdom.

“ Quoniam enim innatæ ociositatis vitio gens Hibernica, nec maria lustrare, nec mercaturæ indulgere aliquatenus voluerat; de communi totius regni consilio *perutile* videbatur, ut gens aliqua, cujus operâ aliorum regionum commercia, quibus hæc terra caruerat, huc adverti possent, in aliquibus regni partibus admitterentur.”

Giraldus, p. 750.

Harris, in his *History of Dublin*, places this invasion of the Danes under Aulaffe, in the year 870.

† In this chronology, I have followed the dates of *Giraldus*; who says, that *Turgesius* landed in *Ireland* in the year 838; and that he reigned there as prince for the space of thirty years.

Of the latter, those settled at DUBLIN appear to have been the most powerful, who, not contented with the establishment and territory they had secured to themselves in a foreign country, carried on a piratical war against their opposite neighbours in WALES, and in these predatory excursions, the rich shrine of SAINT DAVID was frequently plundered, and the city laid waste.

About the year 1162, DERMOD MAC MOROGH presided as King over the Province of LEINSTER, and had, on some occasions, proved himself successful in battle against the Ostmen: this character has thus been described by GIRALDUS DE BARRI, a cotemporary writer*.

“Dermod Mac-Morogh was a tall man of stature, and of a large and great bodie; a valiant and a bold warrior in his nation; and by reason of his continuall halowing and crieng, his voice was hoarse: he rather chose and desired to be feared than to be loved; a great oppressor of his nobilitie, but a great advancer of the poor and weake. To his own people he was rough and greevous, and hatefull unto strangers;

* *Erat autem Dermicius vir staturæ grandis, et corpore per-
amplo; vir bellicosus et audax in gente suâ; ex crebro continu-
oque belli clamore voce raucisonâ. Timeri à cunctis quàm
diligere malens; nobilium oppressor, humilium erector, infestus
suis, exosus alienis. Marus omnium contrà ipsum, et ipse con-
trarius omni.*

Giraldi Hib. expugnata, p.764.

he would be against all men, and all men against him. *”

About the year 1167, the cruelties and oppression of DERMOD MAC MOROGH, stirred up the resentment of RODERICK O’CONNOR, King of Ireland †, who invaded the Province of LEINSTER: and so unpopular had its sovereign made himself by his manifold acts of oppression, that his vassals deserted him in this time of his distress, and took this opportunity for avenging the grievances, which they had for a long time been forced to dissemble. Fortune favoured with success the arms of RODERICK, and DERMOD was obliged to fly from LEINSTER, and seek refuge in England; where he threw himself at the feet of KING HENRY the SECOND, craving his protection, and swearing to him allegiance. The English monarch had for a long time viewed with resentment the conduct of the Irish, who, united with the Ostmen, had committed so many and great depre-

* *Giraldus’ Conquest of Ireland*, translated by John Hooker, in *Hollinshed’s Chronicles*.

† The more immediate cause of *Roderick’s* resentment, was the conduct of *Dermot* towards the wife of *O’Roirk*, or *O’Ruark*, a prince of *Breffine*, whom the Irish historians say he seduced and ravished; but *Giraldus*, ever ready to carp at female inconstancy, considers the *lady* as the principal on this occasion: “*Rapta nimirum fuit, quia et rapi voluit.*” She was ravished, because she would be ravished.

dations against his subjects in WALES; and had often seriously meditated the conquest of that country: he had even in 1155, summoned a council at WINCHESTER to consult about the expediency of such a measure; and had procured a Bull from POPE ADRIAN to authorize his invasion of that kingdom, whenever a favourable opportunity should present itself*.

Being at this time engaged in foreign war against LOUIS, KING OF FRANCE, he could not support the cause of DERMOD by force of arms, but he caused the following edict to be issued in his favour:

“ HENRY, KING OF ENGLAND, &c. &c. unto all his subjects, &c. &c. sendeth greeting.

“ *Whensoever these our letters shall come unto you, know ye that we have received DERMOD, King of Leinster, unto our protection, grace, and favour: wherefore whosoever within our jurisdiction will aid and helpe him, our trustie subject, for the recoverie of his land, let him be assured of our favour and licence in that behalfe.*”

DERMOD, though very honourably received by the King, and according to the words of

* This curious document is preserved in *Rymer's Fædera*, A.D. 1154, and has been translated by Lord Lyttelton, in his *History of King Henry the Second*: “ *Si ergo, quod concepisti animo, effectu duxeris prosequente, complendum, stude gentem illam bonis moribus informare, &c. &c.*”

GIRALDUS, "*spe tamen quàm re longè abundantius exhilaratus*," feeling more encouraged with the hopes of *future* success, than by any *immediate* relief, proceeded on his journey to BRISTOL, where he hoped from the intercourse between that city and IRELAND, to receive some news from his own country. He there caused the royal letters to be publicly read, and offered liberal rewards, both in money and land, to those who would assist him in the recovery of his territories. At length, RICHARD, son of GILBERT DE CLARE, EARL of STRIGUL and CHEPSTOW, came to BRISTOL, conversed with him on the subject, and acceding to his proposals, engaged to come over into Ireland the ensuing spring, upon condition, that DERMOD should give to him in marriage his only daughter EVA, and settle upon him the succession of his whole inheritance, and property in IRELAND.

These preliminaries being settled to the satisfaction of each party, DERMOD, anxious to behold again his native land, even at a distance, repaired to SAINT DAVID'S, where (according to the words of GIRALDUS) "languishing and lying for a passage, he comforted himself as well as he might; sometime drawing, and, as it were, breathing the air of his country, which he seemed to breath and smell; sometimes viewing and beholding his country, which

in a fair day, a man may ken and descry*.”

“ *Sic igitur tamquam ab orâ Cambrici litoris, aeris Hibernici salubritatem Zephiri beneficio propinquiùs hauriens, et quasi desideratæ nidorem patriæ naribus trahens, solatio quamvis longinquo, non tamen exiguo, dum inter colles et nubila vix discernitur, terræ suæ prospectu lumina pascit.*”

The rich Lordship of GLAMORGAN had been subdued, A. D. 1090, by a select band of Norman knights, headed by ROBERT FITZ-HAMON, who, in reward for their military services, parcelled out amongst them various Manors and Lordships. From that period, to the one I am now treating of, the space of seventy-eight years had elapsed, during which, these Norman knights had spread widely over the southern provinces of Wales, and had secured their possessions by strong castles, and other military works.

“ In the year 1168, when DERMOD MAC MOROGH had procured the Royal protection, and licence, to enlist adventurers in his cause, RHYS AP GRUFFYDTH held the sovereignty of SOUTH WALES, and DAVID FITZ-GERALD presided

* In my extracts from *Giraldus*, I have followed the English translation of that author by *John Hooker*, which is to be found in the first volume of *Hollinshead's Chronicles*.

over the See of SAINT DAVID. Each commiserated the degraded condition of the Irish sovereign; "*Exulantis calamitatem, satis humaniter utroque commiserante,*" and although from their exalted situations they could not give him *personal* assistances; yet by their influence they interested others in his cause. Of these personages, no one will hereafter make a more conspicuous figure in the INVASION of IRELAND, than ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN, who at the time when he was Constable of ABERTEIWI, or CARDIGAN, in SOUTH WALES, was apprehended by his own vassals, and treacherously delivered up to Prince RHYS, who had kept him closely confined in prison for three years, and now only offered him liberty on condition, "that he should take up arms, and assist him (RHYS) against HENRY II. King of England. But the noble youth, (who claimed alliance with the Welsh Prince, and the English Monarch *) chose rather to adventure his life, and to seek his fortune in foreign countries, than to hazard his faith, credit, and fame, to the slander, reproach, and infamy of himself, and his posterity." "*Maluit potius et præelegit in externâ regione sub capitis periculo, fatis et fortunæ se committere, quàm in detrimentum famæ et opi-*

* In a subsequent note, I shall lay before my readers the genealogies of *Fitz-Stephen*, and of the other adventurers in Ireland.

nionis suæ suorumque opprobrium non modicum, infidelitatis in posterum argui posse."

By the earnest entreaties of DAVID the Bishop, and MAURICE FITZ-GERALD his half brother by the mother's side, he was at length released from his captivity, when the following agreement was made with MAC MOROGH: "That ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN, and MAURICE FITZ-GERALD, should aid and assist him in the recovery of his possessions in IRELAND; and in consideration of their services, should receive a grant of the town of WEXFORD, with two cantreds of land adjoining, in fee to them and to their heirs for ever."

DERMON being weary of his exiled life, and distressed estate, and anxious to revisit his native country; first offered up his prayers and orisons at the shrine of Saint DAVID, and then set sail about the middle of the month of August, A.D. 1169. He is said to have landed at a place called GLASCARRIG, from whence, he with difficulty made his way through an enemy's country to FERNES, where he remained for the winter as a private man, and was honourably received and entertained by the clergy of the place. "*Apud Fernas igitur a Clero loci illius honorificè juxtà modulum eorum facultatis exceptus, dissimulatâ paulisper principis majestate, satîs singulariter hyemavit.*"

INVASION OF IRELAND.

A.D. 1170. In the month of May, ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN, embarked on board three vessels, and landed safely in the BAN*. He was accompanied by a chosen band of Welshmen, consisting of one hundred and thirty† of his own kinsmen, sixty men in armour, and three hundred archers and footmen. On this same expedition came also HERVEY DE MONT-MAURICE, a man, poor, unarmed, and flying before the face of fortune; travelling on behalf of his

* The *Ban* is a little creek, said, by the annotator on *Giraldus*, to be distant twelve miles from *Wexford*.

† “*Interea vero Robertus Stephani filius nec promissionis immemor nec fidei contemptor 130 militibus de proximis et alumnis suis se preparans, nec non et aliis 60 loricatoris, sagittariis quoque pedestribus quasi 300 de electa Walliæ juventute circa Calendas Maii in tribus navibus apud Banuam applicuit.*”

The translator of this passage, as well as the Historian *Cor*, have made the number of *Fitz-Stephen's* kinsmen only thirty. The *alumnus* seems to apply to foster-children, who were brought up, (as in Wales) by foster-fathers. *Loricatus* is properly a man, in a coat of mail, or with a breast plate.

uncle, RICHARD STRONGBOW, rather as a *spy** than a *soldier*. “*Vir quoque fugitivus à facie fortunæ, inermis et inops, ex parte Richardi Comitiss, (cujus patruus erat) explorator potius quàm expugnator.*” On the following day, MAURICE DE PRENDERGAST, a native of SOUTH WALES, and a man of courage and judgment, with ten gentlemen of service †, and a large body of archers, landed in the BAN; but being apprehensive of an attack from the natives, who had been alarmed at the previous landing of his associates in arms, he thought it advisable to dispatch a messenger to MAC MOROGH, informing him of his safe arrival, and requesting of him an additional escort. He first sent his base son DONOLD to his assistance, with a body of of five hundred men, and speedily followed in person: when, having renewed more strictly their former leagues and covenants, they with one accord proceeded on their march to WEXFORD; and uniting their forces with those of FITZ-STEPHEN, commenced an attack upon that city; but they failed in their first attempt,

* Not to watch the doings of his countrymen, whereby to take them in a trip, but to note, mark, and consider the nature, manner, and disposition of the country and people, whereby to advertize the Earl how he should provide and order his doings against his coming over into the land. *Hooker.*

† The *milites* of *Giraldus* have been translated into *gentlemen of service* by his annotator. *Hooker.*

and were repulsed by the townsmen. Amongst the assailants, was a youth named ROBERT BARRI*, who, "being hot and of a lusty courage, and nothing afraid of death, so he might atchieve unto honour, gave the first adventure to scale the walls; but he was stricken with a great stone upon the headpiece, wherewith he fell head-long down into the ditch, and escaped very hardly." On the following morning the attack was renewed by the English† with such vigour, that the townsmen sued for peace, which they obtained upon a promise of strict fidelity, and delivery of hostages. MAC MOROGH now fulfilled his covenant with FITZ-STEPHEN, and delivered up to him the town of WEXFORD; and to HERVEY DE MONT-MAURICE he gave in fee the two cantreds, lying on the sea-side between WEXFORD and WATERFORD.

These successes of MAC MOROGH, and his English allies, excited the attention of RODERICK O'CONNOR, Prince of CONNAUGHT; but

* *Robert Barri* was the eldest son of *William de Barri*, of *Manorbeer*, in *Pembrokeshire*, who married *Angharad*, sister of *Robert Fitz-Stephen*, and daughter of the celebrated *Nest*.

† I call the enemy by the name of *English* in distinction to the *Irish*, though in fact *Robert Fitz Stephen*, *Maurice de Prendergast*, and *Robert Barri*, were by the father's side *Norman*, and by the mother's, *Welsh*. I shall, however, in future, call these *adventurers* by the general term of *English*.

doubtful of the event of war, he thought it more prudent to conclude a treaty with them, by which MAC MOROGH should be allowed to retain the whole Province of LEINSTER, to him and his heirs; but acknowledging RODERICK to be chief monarch of IRELAND*, and yielding him all the service due to that high station. As a further pledge of friendship between them, RODERICK promised MAC MOROGH his daughter in marriage; and they *secretly* agreed, "that as soon as MAC MOROGH had reestablished good order in the Province of LEINSTER, he should send home all the English, and should not procure any more to come over."

But, at this very crisis, MAURICE FITZ-GERALD lands at WEXFORD with a fresh supply of troops, consisting of ten gentlemen of service, thirty horsemen, and about a hundred archers and footmen; upon which intelligence, MAC MOROGH, availing himself of this unexpected reinforcement, is determined to revenge the many injuries which he and his father had oftentimes received from the citizens of DUB-

* Each province of Ireland had their particular princes, and none of these did hold any one of the other; but choice was made of *some one* of them, by the whole estates of the land, to be *Monarch*; and he for the time being, did take and receive homage and fealty of all the others; *not in respect that he was a particular prince, but because he was the Monarch. Hooker.*

LIN: and whilst FITZ-STEPHEN was actively employed in erecting a fortress upon a rock near WEXFORD, called CARREG, he prevails upon FITZ-GERALD to accompany him to DUBLIN. Having ravaged all the environs of the city, and its adjoining territory, the citizens are compelled to sue for peace, and to take the oaths of fealty and allegiance.

MAC MOROGH elated by these unforeseen successes, still breathing the spirit of revenge against RODERICK, and meditating the invasion of CONNAUGHT, now thinks proper to remind EARL STRONGBOW of his promise made to him at BRISTOL; and thus addresses him:

*“Tempora si numeres, quæ nos numeramus egentes,
Non venit ante suum nostra querela diem.”*

“If *you* do well consider and mark the time as *we* do which are in distress, then we do not complain without cause, nor out of time. For we have already seen the storks and the swallows; the summer birds are also come, and with the westerly winds are gone again. We have long looked and wished for your coming, and albeit the winds have been at east and easterly; yet hitherto you are not come unto us. Wherefore now linger no longer, but hasten yourself hither with speed; that it may thereby appear,

not want of good will, nor forgetfulness of promise, but the injury of time hath been hitherto the cause of your long stay. All LEINSTER is already wholly yielded unto us ; and if you will speedily come away with some strong company and force, we doubt not but that the other four portions * will be recovered, and adjoined to this the fifth portion. Your coming therefore, the more speedy it is, the more grateful ; the more hasty, the more joyful ; and the sooner the better welcome ; and then our dislike of your long lingering, shall be recompensed by your soon coming ; for friendship and good-will is recovered and nourished by mutual offices, and by benefits it groweth to a more assuredness."

STRONGBOW continued undecided whether he should adhere to the promise made to MAC MOROGH ; but at length he made application to KING HENRY, requesting of him either a full restoration of such possessions as by inheritance did lawfully appertain unto him, or liberty to seek his fortune in foreign countries : but he could gain no decisive answer from his Royal Master, who was jealous of the successes which the English and Welsh adventurers had already

* The other four portions here alluded to, are *Connaught, Munster, Ulster, and Meath*: the latter of which is now no longer a province of Ireland, but degraded into the *Counties of Meath and Westmeath*.

met with in IRELAND; but his answer was of such a nature, "*licentia ironica magis quam vera*," that STRONGBOW ventured to construe it to his own advantage, and determined to undertake the Irish expedition. The winter season being past, he sent over before him a valiant and expert young man of his own family, named REYMUND, accompanied by ten gentlemen of service, and seventy archers. They took shipping about the calends of May, A.D. 1170, and having made good their landing under a rock on the sea-coast, called DUNDUNOLF*; which lieth between WATERFORD and WEXFORD, and about four miles east from the former, they threw up a slender fortress of turf and wattle, "*tenuē satis ex virgis et cespīte castrum crexerunt*;" but they did not long remain at rest in their new settlement; for the citizens of WATERFORD, on the news of their landing, immediately flew to arms, and assisted by MALACHY O'FEOLAIN, Prince of the DE-

* This place is thus written by *Giraldus*: Dr. *Smith*, in his *History of Waterford*, names it *Dundrone*, and in a note adds, "that in some accounts, the landing is said to have been at *Don-Isle*, in the County of *Waterford*. The annotator on *Giraldus*, (*Hooker*) says, "that *Dundonolfe* is a rock standing in the County of *Waterford*, upon the sea side, about eight English miles east from *Waterford*, and about twelve Irish miles south from *Wexford*: it has a strong castle appertaining to the ancient house of the *Powers of Kilmaithen*, (*Kilmeaden*) and called by the name of *Dundorogh*."

CIES, crossed the River SUIRE, which separates the Provinces of DESMOND and LEINSTER, and marched directly, with a force of three thousand men, to attack the invaders. The gallant REIMUND came forth to meet them with his small but determined band of associates: but the numbers were too unequal; and after the first onset, he was compelled to retreat towards his fort. The Danes and Irish, thinking their victory complete, pursued them so closely, that they entered the gates fighting. REIMUND, aware of his perilous situation, boldly faced the enemy, and ran through with his sword the foremost who had gained admittance; then with a loud and animated voice, cried out to his company to be of good comfort. His troops rally again around him, and making a desperate sally, put the enemy to flight. Five hundred were slain on the field of battle; many others precipitated from the rocks into the sea, and seventy of the principal citizens were detained as prisoners of war*. Thus, exclaims GIRAL-

* The cause of this happy reverse of fortune, has been related somewhat differently by *Regan* (the servant and interpreter of *Mac Morogh*), he says, "The company with *Reymund* did not exceed one hundred English; but before the enemies coming, he had gotten into his hands all the cows of the country near him. Being besieged, by a general consent it was advised, rather to sally and die manfully, than endure a lingering siege. *Reymund* then commands the gates to be opened, the cattle was

DUS, fell the pride of WATERFORD! thus did its power vanish!

The treatment of these prisoners became a matter of serious dispute between REIMUND, and HERVEY DE MONT MAURICE, who, immediately on his landing, had come to his assistance with three gentlemen of service. The former, leaning to the side of mercy, contended, "That these prisoners are no enemies now, but men; no rebels, but such as be vanquished and overthrown; and by standing forth in defence of their country, by evil fortune, and a worse destiny, are subdued. Their adventures were honest, and their attempts commendable, and therefore they are not to be reputed for thieves, factious persons, traitors, nor yet murtherers. They are now brought to that distress and case, that rather mercy for example's sake, is to be shewed, than cruelty to the increasing of their misery is to be administered. Surely our ancestors were wont in times of good success and prosperity, to temperate their loose minds, and unruly affections, with some one incommodity or other. Wherefore let mercy and pity, which in a man is most commendable, work so in us, that we, who have overcome others, may also

driven forth, and followed with shouts and cries, to affright them, who brake in upon the Irish, put them into such confusion, that the English obtained an easy victory."

now subdue our own minds, and conquer our own affections; for modesty, moderation, and discretion, are wont to stay hasty motions, and to stop rash devices. O how commendable and honourable it is to a noble man, that in his greatest triumph and glory, he counteth it for a sufficient revenge, that he can revenge and be wreaked!"

HERVEY, on the contrary, pleaded for cruelty and death. He replied, "Our victory is to be so used, that the destruction of these few may be a terror to many; whereby all others, and this wild and rebellious nation may take an example, and beware how they meddle and encounter with us. Of two things, we are to make choice of one; for either we must valiantly and courageously stand to perform what we have taken in hand, and all fond pity set aside, boldly and stoutly overthrow and vanquish this rebellious and stubborn people; or if we shall, after the mind and opinion of REYMUND, altogether be pityful, and full of mercy, we must hoist up our sails, and return home, leaving both the country and our patrimony to this miserable and wretched people."

The opinion of HERVEY was best liked, and the captives (like men condemned) were brought to the rocks, and their limbs being first broken, were cast headlong into the sea.

In the mean time, EARL STRONGBOW was

active in making preparations for this great expedition. Coasting the southern provinces of WALES, and collecting levies of the most chosen youth of the country, he proceeded to ST. DAVID'S, and having procured the necessities for his voyage, he set sail from MILFORD HAVEN with a favourable wind, and landed in the Bay of WATERFORD on the 23d August, A.D. 1171. This military force consisted of about two hundred gentlemen of service, and a thousand soldiers.

The day on which STRONGBOW landed (the 23d of August) was the vigil of the feast of St. BARTHOLOMEW; on which account the attack of WATERFORD was probably deferred till the day succeeding the festival:

“ Mane verò post festum, die quidem Martis, Martia communiter ad urbis insultum vexilla vehuntur.”

The citizens who had escaped from the pursuit of REYMUND, after their attack on his fort at DUNDONOLF, defended themselves manfully on this occasion, and gave the English two different repulses. REYMUND, however, espying a small house of timber*, built upon posts, and

* The credit of this *manœuvre* has been given to *Reymund*, by many authors. The annotator on *Giraldus (Hooker)* says, “that *Reimund* joined *Strongbow* on the morrow after his landing with forty gentlemen of service,” and that by the assent and desire of

connected with the wall of the city, encouraged his soldiers to cut down the posts that supported it, which having accomplished, the house fell to the ground, and bringing down with it a large portion of the wall, occasioned a breach, through which the English immediately entered the town, and putting the inhabitants to death without distinction, obtained a most bloody victory *. Amongst the prisoners were REGINALD, Prince of the Danes at WATERFORD, and MALACHY O'FEOLAIN, Prince of

the whole army, he was appointed their *generalissimo*: he adds also, that *Reymund* first espied this house of timber, upon which the fate of *Waterford* rested. But *Giraldus* is silent on this last event; he says, "*videns domunculam quandam*;" which, according to his text, would seem to apply to *Earl Richard*, the name of *Reymund* not having appeared. Indeed the following passage at the conclusion of his account of the landing of *Strongbow*, cap. xvi. lib. 1, seems to prove, that *Mac Morogh*, *Reymund*, *Fitz-Stephen*, and *Maurice Fitz-Gerald*, did not arrive at *Waterford* till after the city was taken. "*Captis igitur, &c. sed interventu Dermitti, qui cum Mauricio, et Stephanide, nec non et Reymundo jam tum advenerat et ad vitam reservatis,*" &c. &c.

* In the very place of this assault, is now builded a strong fort and block house, which is very well furnished and appointed with ordinance and shot. It is in the very east angle or point of the walls of the city, and within, on the south side the walls, it doth appear how the same was burned by the Englishmen at this their entry.

Hooker, A. D. 1586.

the DECIERS*, whose lives were spared at the intercession of DERMOD MAC MOROGH.

This scene of carnage was quickly succeeded by one of great festivity, and the promised contract was completed between EARL STRONGBOW, and EVA, daughter and heiress to DERMOD MAC MOROGH, Prince of LEINSTER. But no sooner was the marriage duly solemnized, than the victorious chieftains again unfurled their banners, and proceeded on their march towards DUBLIN. MAC MOROGH having received advice, that the citizens had called together a very considerable force to their assistance, and being apprehensive that many obstacles might occur on the *direct* road to DUBLIN, took a circuitous march to the eastward, and by crossing the mountains of GLENDALOGH, conducted his army safe before the walls of the city.

Towards its inhabitants MAC MOROGH breathed a very just and natural spirit of revenge, for they had murdered his father in a public and open manner, and had added insult to their crime, by interring a dog with him in his grave. "*Præ omnibus namque civibus istos non immeritò habebat exosos. In medio namque domus*

* The tower in which these prisoners were taken, was at that time called *Reginald's Tower*, from the name of its Danish founder; it is still known by the name of *Ringtower*, and a plate with a description is given by Mr. *Grose*, in his *Irish Antiquities*.

cujusdam grandis, ubi, tanquam in foro, pro curiâ sedere consueverant; patrem ipsius interemptum, damno dedecus annectentes, cum cane cives cumulaverant."

Whilst the elders of the city, with LAWRENCE the Archbishop at their head, were debating whether it would not be advisable to treat with MAC MOROGH and his allies, REYMUND and MILO DE COGAN, two spirited young men, rushed into the city, and gained a complete victory. The better part of the inhabitants, collecting their valuables, fled with HASCULPH, the Danish chieftain, to the port, and embarking on board the vessels and boats, sailed to the northern islands.

STRONGBOW having remained a few days at DUBLIN to reestablish the tranquillity of that city, and having entrusted the care of it to MILO DE COGAN, was induced, by MAC MOROGH, to invade and lay waste the territory of his old and inveterate enemy O'RUARK, Prince of MEATH; upon which, RODERICK O'CONNOR, King of CONNAUGHT, thinking, "that as his neighbour's house was set on fire, his own might shortly suffer the same fate," sent messengers to MAC MOROGH, with letters to this purpose:

"Contrary to the order of peace, thou ha'st called together into this land a great multitude of strangers; and as long as thou did'st keep thyself within thine own country of LEINSTER,

we bare therewith, and were contented. But as now, not caring for thy oath; nor regarding the safety of thy hostages, thou ha'st so insolently passed thy bounds; I am to require thee to retire, and withdraw these ex-curses of strangers, or else, without fail, I will cut off thy son's head, and send it thee."

MAC MOROGH, however, paid no attention either to this message, or to his former compact with RODERICK, but answered, "that he would not desist from his enterprize, until he had subdued all CONNAUGHT, [which he claimed as his ancient inheritance,] and recovered the MONARCHY of IRELAND." Upon which, RODERICK ordered his son's head (whom he had received as a pledge of their former contract) to be cut off.

A synod was now held at ARMAGH, consisting of the whole clergy of IRELAND, to consider respecting the arrival of these strangers in their country; when it was unanimously agreed, that their sins, and particularly their custom of buying English subjects from merchants and pirates, and reducing them to slavery, had called down upon their nation the Divine censure, and therefore it was decreed, with the universal consent of the whole assembly, that from henceforth the English should be released from bondage, and set free.

Exaggerated accounts of these victories, stating, that STRONGBOW had not only recovered his own inheritance in LEINSTER, but had extended his conquests to other territories whereunto he had no title, reached the ears of his Royal Master, who issued a proclamation, prohibiting strictly the entry of any vessel with supplies or merchandize, into the ports of Ireland; and ordering all his English subjects to return home before the next ensuing Easter, upon pain of forfeiture of their estates, and personal banishment.

The advice of a council called by the Earl on this distressful event, was, that REYMUND should be sent to the King in AQUITAINE with letters to this effect:

“My right honourable Lord! I came into this land with your leave and favour, (as I remember) for the aiding and helping of your servant DERMOD MAC MOROUGH; and whatsoever I have gotten and purchased, either by him, or any others, as I confess and acknowledge the same from and by the means of your gracious goodness, so shall the same still rest, and remain at your devotion and commandment.”

REYMUND repaired immediately to the King, but could gain no favourable answer to the Earl's letter, nor assistance for his friends in distress.

A.D. 1171. In the month of May, (about the Calends) DERMOD MAC MOROUGH, King of LEINSTER, died at FERNES. He has been described by GIRALDUS, "as a tall man of stature, and of a large and great body; a valiant and a bold warrior; and by reason of his continual hallowing, his voice was hoarse. He rather chose to be feared than to be loved; a great oppressor of his nobility, but a great advancer of the poor and weak. To his own people he was rough and grievous; and hateful unto strangers; he would be against all men, and all men against him." "*Manus omnium. contra ipsum, et ipse contrarius omni.*"

About Whitsuntide, the late Governor of DUBLIN, HASCULPH, the Dane, who had fled so precipitately on the last attack of that city, reappeared at the mouth of the River LIFFEY, with a large and well appointed fleet of sixty ships.

His troops, under the command of JOHN the FURIOUS, made good their landing, and marched towards the eastern gate, where MILO DE COGAN was ready to receive them. The contest was sharp; and fortune would probably have ultimately favoured the superior numbers of the Danes, had not RICHARD DE COGAN, by a well concerted feint, relieved his brave brother MILO. On seeing his perilous situation, he suddenly and secretly issued from the postern

gate, and stealing upon the backs of his enemies, made a great shout, and fell upon them; which unexpected attack so surprised and dismayed the Danes, that although the fate of the contest was still uncertain, they broke their ranks, and fled.

JOHN the FURIOUS fell in battle, and HASCULPH, in endeavouring to escape to his ships, was taken prisoner, and conducted in triumph to that city, over which he so lately presided as governor. He was reserved for ransom, but on being brought before MILO DE COGAN, and his council, his furious temper betrayed him: "We are come hither now, says the Dane, but a small company, and a few of us, and these are but the beginnings of our adventures; but if God send me life, you shall see greater matters ensue and follow." Upon which, MILO revoked his former offers of ransom, and ordered his head to be struck off.

The situation of STRONGBOW and his brave associates became every day more distressful; all intercourse was interdicted with England, and no favourable answer could be procured from the King.

The Irish Princes, instigated by LAWRENCE O'TOOL, Archbishop of Dublin, availed themselves of this favourable opportunity in endeavouring to throw off the English yoke. They procured assistance from GOTHRED, King of

the ISLE OF MAN ; and RODERICK O'CONNOR, King of CONNAUGHT, joined this powerful coalition.

The Earl and his associates had been closely besieged within the city for two months, and their provisions began to fail: to add to the general distress, they received intelligence that FITZ-STEPHEN was also besieged within his fort at CARREG, by three thousand citizens of WEXFORD. In this awful dilemma, MAURICE FITZ-GERALD addressed his fellow soldiers, stating to them their very perilous situation, the impossibility of receiving any succours from sea, and the odium they should incur, if they suffered their brave companion, FITZ-STEPHEN, who first led the way into IRELAND, to perish for want of assistance, &c. &c. He was warmly seconded by his nephew REYMUND, who told them, " that the time is short, the perils imminent, and the dangers great; and therefore no delays are now to be used. It is no time now to sit in council, nor to spend much time in long speeches; but in present perils, we must use present remedies. We are to look for little comfort out of England. I know the King dispraiseth not our activities, but yet he favoureth not our successes; he discommendeth not our valiantness, but yet envieth at our glory; in words, he reporteth well of our services, but yet he secretly hindereth the same; he feareth,

that which we mean not, and doubteth of that which we think not; to trust therefore unto them, who care not for us; to look for help from them, who mind not any; and to wait for relief, where none is meant; it were but a mere folly, and a lost labour on our parts, and in the end, like to return to our own shame, reproach and confusion. Wherefore being out of all hope of any further help or supply, and out of all doubt of any further comfort or relief, let us, as becometh noble, lusty, and valiant men, try the course of fortune, and prove the force of the enemy. And what though our enemies be never so many, and we in respect of them but an handful, should we therefore be afraid, as though victory stood in multitudes, and conquest in great numbers? No, no, Kings be not so saved, nor Princes do so conquer; for a few men well disposed, and a small number well encouraged, are sufficient to encounter with a greater number, being wretched and sluggards. My mind then and opinion is, that we do issue out upon them as secretly and as suddenly as we may, and boldly give the onset upon them*."

* This speech of *Reymund* is not given by *Giraldus*, in the printed text of his *Hibernia expugnata*, but as it is given at length by the translator, and forms a separate chapter, viz. xxiv. I am inclined to think, that he translated from some other manuscript copy of *Giraldus*. When I referred to his different MSS.

This animated speech of REYMUND produced the desired effect upon the minds of the soldiers, who unanimously yielded to his advice, and resolved to attack the enemy. Amongst these gallant chieftains, were EARL STRONGBOW, MAURICE FITZ-GERALD, with his two sons, GIRALD and ALEXANDER, REYMUND, MILO DE COGAN, and MEYLER FITZ-HENRY: having resolved that the first and principal effort should be made against RODERICK, Prince of CONNAUGHT, this determined band, consisting of about 600 men, sallied forth from the city in the morning, about the ninth hour, against an host of 30,000 men, each contending who should be foremost in this desperate undertaking, but REYMUND "*inter primos primus existens*," among the first being the first, *et longè ante alios*, and long before the rest, gave the first adventure, and perforated two of the enemy with his lance. The unsuspecting enemy thus surprised, were suddenly put to flight, and RODERICK, who at the commencement of the attack, was sitting in his bath, escaped with difficulty. The English pursued the fugitives on all sides till evening, when they returned

relating to *Wales*, I found they varied very much, some being much more diffuse than others; and as the 25th chapter of *Hooker*, is the translation of the 24th of *Giraldus*, it appears as if *Camden* had omitted the chapter containing this speech of *Reymund*.

laden with spoils, and a plentiful supply of provisions.

The City of DUBLIN being again rendered secure, and the Province of LEINSTER recovered, the army recruited by fresh supplies, and encouraged by a considerable booty, STRONGBOW proceeded with all possible dispatch to the relief of his friend FITZ-STEPHEN, at WEXFORD, who, under a false pretence, had been induced to surrender himself into the hands of his enemies*.

Some Irish historians say, that the Earl was attacked on his journey thither, by a chieftain of the country, named O'RYAN, at a place called "*The Earl's Pass*," in the Country of ODRONE†, and that his only son, a youth of

* The Irish and Danes seeing there was little prospect of taking *Fitz-Stephen* and his fort by open assault, had recourse to treachery, "*ad consueta fallaciæ tela, figmentaque dolosa concurrunt.*" They conducted the Bishops of *Wexford* and *Kildare*, together with other persons dressed in religious habits, before the ramparts of the Castle, and there, in the presence of their religious relics, take their corporal oath on the Holy book, "that *Dublin* is taken, and that *Strongbow*, *Fitz-Gerald*, *Reymund*, and the whole English army were destroyed, and that the united armies of *Connaught* and *Leinster* were on their march towards *Wexford*."

† *Odrone*, or rather, *Hy-drone*, is a Barony in the County of *Carlow*, which appears at this time to have been a territory belonging to the *O'Ryan*s, and held by fealty and service under the King of *Leinster*. By the marriage of *Earl Strongbow*, with

about seventeen years, frightened by the number and ululations of the Irish, ran away from the field of battle, and made towards Dublin; but being there informed of his father's victory, he joyfully returned to congratulate him on that success; but the severe General, having first reproached him with cowardice, caused him immediately to be executed, by cutting him off in the middle with a sword. Such is the account given of this transaction by Sir RICHARD COX, in his *History of Ireland*, who adds, "that the tomb both of the father and the son is yet to be seen in the body of CHRIST CHURCH, DUBLIN, whereon *formerly* was this bald epitaph:

*"Nate ingrate, mihi pugnanti terga dedisti,
Non mihi, sed genti, regno quoque terga dedisti.*

On approaching to WEXFORD, STRONGBOW received intelligence, that the Irish had set fire to the city, and had retreated to an island within the harbour, called BEGERY*, and they

Era, daughter of that Prince, the services devolved on the *Earl*, to whom, by O'Ryan's non-submission and resistance, it became forfeited. (*Regan, Note, p. 30.*)

* *Begery*, or Little Ireland, is an island quite to the north of *Wexford* harbour. *St. Ivor* built a celebrated monastery here, and founded a school, over which he presided so early as the

took an opportunity of informing him, that if he proceeded any further, they would cut off the heads of FITZ-STEPHEN and all their prisoners; upon which STRONGBOW changed his route, and marched to WATERFORD, where he found HERVEY DE MONT MAURICE, just returned from his embassy to the King.

By his advice the Earl was persuaded to return to England. He immediately took shipping, accompanied by his friend HERVEY, and met King HENRY at NEWENHAM in GLOUCESTERSHIRE; where, after many sharp altercations, a reconciliation at length took place, by a convention and the intervention of HERVEY. It was agreed, that the Earl should swear allegiance unto the King, and surrender to him the City of DUBLIN, with the adjoining cantreds, together with all towns and castles bordering on the sea coast, and that as to the residue of his acquisitions, he should retain them to himself, and to his heirs, but holding the same of the King and of his heirs.

This long disputed cause being amicably settled, the Earl accompanied his Royal Master through SOUTH WALES, to the town of PEMBROKE, where he continued for some time, collecting his fleet, and amusing himself with

year 420; he died A.D. 500, and was interred here; and his relics are still held in great veneration.

his favourite diversion of hawking *. When all the necessary preparations were made for this Irish expedition, King HENRY set sail from MILFORD HAVEN, and on the 18th of October, 1172, landed at WATERFORD, with an army consisting of five hundred knights, or gentlemen of service, and a large body of inferior troops †.

During the absence of STRONGBOW, O'RURK, the one-eyed King of MEATH, made another effort to recover his lost possessions, and laid siege to DUBLIN; but he was repulsed by the brave MILO DE COGAN; with great slaughter, and the loss of his only son.

Soon after the King's arrival at WATERFORD, the citizens of WEXFORD, under a pretence of obsequiousness, and intimating that he had invaded IRELAND without the royal permission, brought FITZ-STEPHEN in chains before the King; who reprimanded him for his audacity, and ordered him to be confined in REGINALD'S TOWER. Then came DERMOD MAC CARTHY, King of CORK, and voluntarily submitted himself unto the King, took the oath of allegiance, and

* See *Giraldus Cambrensis' Itinerary of Wales*, book i. chapter 12, where he relates an anecdote of the Royal Hawking.

† Lord *Lyttelton* states, that the number of his vessels amounted to 440 large ships; and Sir *Richard Cox* says, that his inferior troops amounted to 4000.

agreed to pay a certain tribute annually. From WATERFORD the King removed with his army to LISMORE, where he stayed two days, and from thence proceeded to CASHEL, where, upon the banks of the River SUIRE, DONALD, King of LIMERICK, came unto him; swore fealty, and became tributary; as in like manner did DONALD, Prince of OSSORY, and MALACHY O'FEOLAIN, Prince of the DECIES. HENRY having ordered garrisons to be established at CORK and LIMERICK, returned to WATERFORD, where taking pity of the brave FITZ-STEPHEN, he released him from captivity, restoring to him his former possessions, WEXFORD alone excepted, which he reserved for himself.

Having entrusted the government of WATERFORD to ROBERT FITZ-BERNARD, the King proceeded on his march towards DUBLIN; through OSSORY, and on his journey received submission from many of the Irish Princes; but the haughty RODERICK O'CONNOR, of CONNAUGHT, would not step beyond the SHANNON to greet the English Monarch; there HUGH DE LACY, and WILLIAM FITZ-ALDELINE, met him, and administered the oath of allegiance. Thus, according to GIRALDUS, "there was no one within that land, who was of any name or countenance, but that he did present himself before the King's Majesty, and yielded unto

him subjection and due obedience." "*Nec aliqujus ferè in insulâ vel nominis erat vel ominis, qui Regiæ Majestati vel sui præsentiam, vel debitam domino reverentiam, non exhiberet.*"

Tranquillity being now reestablished within the island, King HENRY ordered a Synod to be held at CASHEL, where sundry wholesome regulations respecting the church and state were proposed and enacted*. The historian, MATTHEW PARIS, says, "that in this same year, a council was held at LISMORE, where the English system of legislature was established." "*Sed Rex Pater antequam ab Hiberniâ rediret, apud Lissemor concilium congregavit, ubi Leges Angliæ ab omnibus gratanter sunt receptæ, et juratoria, cautione prestitâ, confirmatæ.*" As no mention is made of this important meeting by GIRALDUS, I am inclined to think, that it has been confounded with the Synod at CASHEL, over which the Bishop of LISMORE presided. REGAN, however, mentions the King having passed through LISMORE, where he ordered a castle to be built.

The King kept his Christmas at DUBLIN; but such was the mean state of that city, that no house could be found sufficiently large for

* The Constitutions of *Cashel* are recorded by *Giraldus*, in his *Hibernia Expugnata*, lib. i. cap. 33, 4.

his household, and he was obliged to construct one of twigs and wattles, according to the custom of the country.

This winter proved so very tempestuous *, that scarcely a single vessel could approach the island; nor could the King receive any intelligence whatever from the Continent. He remained for some time at WEXFORD, anxiously expecting news from England, and during the time of his residence in that city, he made use of every artifice to ingratiate himself with REYMUND, MILO DE COGAN, WILLIAM MACKARELL, and others of the principal people; that by strengthening his own party, he might weaken that of Earl STRONGBOW, whom he still regarded with a jealous eye.

About Mid-Lent some vessels from ENGLAND and AQUITAINE reached the Irish coast, with the important intelligence, that two cardinals had been sent unto the King in Normandy, by order of the Pope, to enquire into the circumstances of BECKET'S death; that they had been waiting his return for some months, and that, if he did not speedily come over to them, they would lay all his domi-

* The effects of these tempests on the coast of South Wales at Newgal Sands, are related by *Giraldus* in his *Welsh Itinerary*, book i. chapter 13.

nions, both at home and abroad, under an interdiction. HENRY therefore committed the custody of his towns and castles to the most trusty of his subjects, and to check the ascendancy of STRONGBOW, having made very considerable grants of lands and provinces to others, he embarked at WEXFORD, and landed safely in the Harbour of SAINT DAVID'S; from whence, after the manner and habit of a pilgrim, with his staff in hand, he walked up towards the city, where he was received at the *Porta Alba*, or white gate, in all due form, by the dignitaries of the church*.

The rich Province of MEATH, together with the principal command of the city of DUBLIN, had been conferred by King HENRY, upon HUGH de LACY, who shortly found himself unequal to so important a trust. He nearly fell a sacrifice to the treachery of O'RUARK, but was rescued from his perilous situation by the bravery of MAURICE FITZ GERALD. The Irish chieftain, who on so many occasions had proved himself hostile and troublesome to the English, was killed in this skirmish, by one GRYFFITH, and his head being cut off, was sent to the King

* On this occasion, *Giraldus* relates the anecdote of the *Lapis Lechlavar*, or speaking stone, which he also mentions in his *Welsh Itinerary*, when treating of *St. David's*, book ii. chapter 1.

in England*. Dissensions also had arisen amongst the bravest of the adventurers, REYMUND and HERVEY; the army was badly paid, clothed, and supplied with provisions; and the military operations against the Irish were slack and slender; in short discontents arose to such a pitch, that the soldiers in their distress applied to Earl STRONGBOW, (who by the command of his Royal Master, had lately resumed the reins of government) and exclaimed with

* Lord Lyttelton, in his *Life of King Henry II.* vol. v. p. 240, says, "that O'Ruark's head was cut off, and set up on the great gate of the Castle of Dublin, and that on the King's return from Normandy, it was taken down, and sent to him in England. He quotes *Giraldus Hibernia Expugnata*, lib. i. cap. 40, for his authority; but as the circumstance of the head being placed on the gate of Dublin, is not mentioned in the *printed* edition, I imagine he gained this information from some MS. copy. The translation by *Hooker*, printed in 1587, also varies frequently from *Camden's* printed copy, in 1602, being in general more full; and this variation may be accounted for in the same way. When I was engaged in examining the different manuscripts of *Giraldus* relating to Wales, many very perfect and beautiful copies of his works upon Ireland fell under my observation in the rich repositories at *Oxford*, *Cambridge*, *Lambeth*, and the *British Museum*.

The author of the *Statistical Survey of the County of Leitrim*, says, "that the great O'Rorke, (by whom I suppose the same personage is meant) lies at full length on a tomb over the burial ground of his family at *Crevelea*, in that County." The same circumstance is mentioned by Mr. *Archdale*.

one voice, "that unless he would again appoint REYMUND to be their leader, they would either forsake his standard, and return to England, or would enlist in the service of their enemies.

STRONGBOW having complied with their request, REYMUND renewed offensive operations against the Irish, and carried on a predatory war with his usual success, until being summoned into Wales on the death of his father, WILLIAM FITZ-GERALD, the chief command of the army devolved on his rival, HERVEY.

A speedy reverse of fortune ensued, "*omnia statim in pejus ruere*," the English were defeated in the neighbourhood of CASHEL, by DONALD, Prince of LIMERICK; and RODERICK O'CONNOR, availing himself of these successes of his countrymen, crossed the SHANNON, invaded the Province of MEATH, and carried general devastation with him up to the very walls of DUBLIN.

Earl STRONGBOW, who was at this time closely cooped up, and besieged within the city of WATERFORD, foresaw no probability of relief but from the tried skill and courage of REYMUND. He therefore wrote pressing letters to him in WALES, earnestly entreating him to come over to his assistance with all possible dispatch, and promising him on his arrival the hand of his sister BASILEA, whom he had for a long time tenderly loved. REYMUND willingly

obeyed the summons, and landed at WATERFORD with a fleet of fifteen vessels, and a reinforcement of thirty gentlemen of service, an hundred horsemen, and three hundred chosen archers and infantry. The moment of his arrival was highly seasonable, for the citizens were actually deliberating on the murder of the English; and indeed, no sooner had the Earl and REYMUND turned their backs upon WATERFORD, than the rebellious citizens assassinated the Governor, to whom the Earl had entrusted the command of the town, and all the English inhabitants of either sex, who could not make their escape into REGINALD'S Tower.

Whilst the nuptials were celebrating at WEXFORD, between REYMUND and BASILEA the sister of STRONGBOW, intelligence arrived, that RODERICK had invaded LEINSTER: upon which the bridegroom "*nec vino nec Venere retardatus*," buckled on his armour, and marched forth to meet the enemy; but RODERICK hearing of the approach of REYMUND, and having on former occasions proved his valiantness, thought fit to retire into CONNAUGHT; upon which, REYMUND began to repair the Castle of TRIM, and other forts that RODERICK had destroyed in MEATH; and thus, through awe of him, "*præ timore viri*," the country enjoyed for some time a state of tranquillity.

But whilst the Province of LEINSTER, and

the Prince of CONNAUGHT were kept quiet by the address of REYMUND, fresh disturbances broke out in MUNSTER. DONALD O'BRIAN, Prince of LIMERICK, whose successes against the English under HERVEY, have been before taken notice of, again took up arms, and unmindful of the oath he had taken, threw off his allegiance to the King : upon which, REYMUND put himself at the head of a small but select army of eight hundred and twenty men, and marched towards the city of LIMERICK ; but on reaching the banks of the SHANNON, he found the river so deep, and the current so strong, that his army could not cross it in safety. Upon this occasion, one DAVID WELSH clapped spurs to his horse, and plunging boldly into the stream, reached the opposite shore in safety, and exclaimed loudly, " that he had found a ford ;" yet never a man would follow him, save one GEOFFREY IUDAS, who, on his return with DAVID to conduct the army across the river, was carried away by the impetuosity of the current, and unfortunately drowned. MEYLER, however, undismayed by this accident, and seeing the awkward situation in which his kinsman REYMUND was placed, ventured into the river, and gained the opposite bank ; and whilst he was engaged in defending himself against the citizens of LIMERICK, who attacked him with stones, and threatened

to kill him ; REYMUND, who had hitherto been employed in the rear of his army, appeared on the river side, and seeing the imminent danger to which his nephew MEYLER was exposed, exhorted his troops to try the passage of the SHANNON ; and such was the influence of this brave leader over them, that at the risk of their lives, they followed him across the river, and having put the enemy to flight, took quiet possession of their city.

REYMUND, having left a strong garrison at LIMERICK, under the command of MILO of ST. DAVID'S, his kinsman, returned with the remainder of his army to the borders of LEINSTER. HERVEY in the mean time, ever jealous of the powerful ascendancy which his rival REYMUND maintained over the minds of his soldiers, used every possible, and even unjust means, to prejudice him in the eyes of the King. By means of letters, he insinuated, that it was the intention of REYMUND to usurp to himself not only the city of LIMERICK, but the sovereignty of the whole island ; and he succeeded so well in these his malicious representations, that the King sent over four of his servants to Ireland ; two of whom he ordered to bring REYMUND over with them into England ; and the other two he ordered to remain with Earl STRONGBOW.

Whilst REYMUND was waiting for a favour-

able wind to waft him to the English coast in obedience to the royal mandate, a messenger arrived from the garrison at LIMERICK, with intelligence, that DONALD had invested the city with a powerful army; and that, as the garrison had nearly consumed their whole winter stock of provisions, a speedy supply, and immediate succour were absolutely necessary. STRONGBOW resolved without loss of time to fly to their relief; but the whole army was so grieved at the departure of their gallant leader REYMUND, that they unanimously refused to march to LIMERICK, unless led to battle by him. By the persuasion of STRONGBOW, and the concurrence of the two counsellors, sent by the King, REYMUND reassumed the command of the army. With this collected force, consisting of eighty gentlemen of service, two hundred horsemen, and three hundred archers, besides some Irish troops that had joined him, he proceeded on his march towards CASHEL, where he gained intelligence that DONALD, Prince of LIMERICK, and MOROGH, of KINSALE, were coming to meet him at the PASS of CASHEL. This Pass was strong by nature, and had been rendered more difficult of access by throwing trees and hedges across it.

Whilst DONALD was animating his troops to battle, the impatient MEYLER burst forth like a whirlwind, "*tanquam turbo validus*," de-

stroyed the hedges, opened a passage by his sword, "*viam gladiis aperuit et ampliavit*," and putting the enemy to flight, again took possession of the city of LIMERICK.

Shortly afterwards a parley was held by RODERICK and DONALD with REYMUND, in which the Irish Princes once more swore allegiance to King HENRY and his heirs, and delivered up hostages as a guarantee of their compact.

Fresh applications for assistance were now made to the victorious REYMUND, from DERMOD MAC CARTHY, Prince of DESMOND, (who had been treated with great severity and injustice by his eldest son,) with liberal promises of ample recompence to himself, and good pay and subsistence to his soldiers. REYMUND, who according to his biographer, was neither a despiser of profit nor praise, "*nec lucri nec laudis contemptor*," undertook the expedition, and marched with his victorious banners towards CORK, and having restored the father to his lawful possessions, returned to LIMERICK well laden with booty and presents. But whilst REYMUND was thus engaged in the Province of DESMOND, he received the following ænigmatical letter from his wife BASILEA at DUBLIN :

"*Noverit, (mi carissime) vestræ dilectionis sinceritas, quod dens ille molaris et magnus, qui tantum mihi doluerat, jam cecidit. Quapro-*

ter si qua vobis vel mei, vel etiam vestri de cetero cura fuerit ; reditum maturare non differatis."

" Know ye, my dear lord, that my great cheek tooth, which was won't to ake so much, is now fallen out ; wherefore if ye have any regard of me, or of yourself, come away with all speed."

" REYMUND well understanding that the death of Earl STRONGBOW was hereby alluded to, returned immediately to LIMERICK, where he communicated the event to some of his most confidential friends, who unanimously agreed, that on account of the Earl's death, and his own (REYMUND's) departure from Ireland, it would be advisable to relinquish the city of LIMERICK, as being so distant from the other settlements of the English, and so surrounded by enemies ; and to withdraw the troops from the protection of the sea-ports, towns, and forts in LEINSTER. REYMUND unwillingly acquiesced, and as no person could be found to take upon himself the command of the city after his departure, he conferred the sole command of it on DONALD, as a liege servant of the King, who accepted the government, and renewed his former promises of fidelity and service, by fresh oaths of allegiance ; but no sooner had REYMUND and his army passed the further end of the bridge, than at the instigation of the perjured DONALD, the citizens brake it down, and set fire to the town in four different quarters.

When King HENRY was informed of REYMUND's conduct on this occasion, he is said to have replied, " Noble was the enterprize in giving the first attack upon the city, but greater was the recovering thereof again: but it was wisdom only in quitting it. "*Magnus fuit ausus in aggrediendo, major in subveniendo, sed sapientia solum in destituendo.*"

REYMUND having conducted his army in safety to DUBLIN, the funerals of Earl STRONGBOW were duly solemnized, by LAWRENCE, Archbishop of DUBLIN, and his body deposited in the church of the HOLY TRINITY.

With the death of Earl STRONGBOW, I shall close my sketch of the English affairs in Ireland; but as a description of each of the several chieftains who figured so conspicuously in the invasion of this island, has been ably delineated by a contemporary historian*, it may perhaps be satisfactory to my readers to become more intimately acquainted with the principal features of their *persons*, as well as *characters*, as likewise with the style of writing adopted by a celebrated author of the twelfth century, in describing them.

* *Giraldus de Barri*, better known by the title of *Giraldus Cambrensis*, in his *Historia Vaticinatis* has given a detailed and very curious account of this invasion of Ireland; and during the course of it, has drawn the characters of the principal chieftains who were engaged in that enterprize.

I. RICHARD STRONGBOW.

The first of this noble family was RICHARD, the eldest son of GISLEBERT, Earl of BRION in NORMANDY; and was called RICHARD FITZ-GILBERT. He came over with WILLIAM Duke of NORMANDY, and by his personal bravery contributed very essentially to the success which attended the CONQUEROR in the memorable battle of HASTINGS. In the Survey called *Domesday*, he is styled RICARDUS de TONEBRUGGE, from his seat at TUNBRIDGE in KENT, which town and castle he had obtained in exchange for his castle at BRION in NORMANDY: from his extensive lordships in SUFFOLK, he also procured the title of RICARDUS de CLARE. He married ROHESE, daughter of WALTER GIFFARD, Earl of BUCKINGHAM, and was murdered by IORWERTH, brother of MORGAN of CAERLEON, in the Pass of COED GRONO, MONMOUTHSHIRE*.

He was succeeded by his eldest son GILBERT, who was also surnamed de TONEBRUGGE: by his marriage with ADELIZA, daughter to the

*A very particular account of the spot where this murder was committed, has been given in my notes on that passage of *Giraldus's Itinerary in Wales*, book i. chapter 4.

Earl of CLEREMONT, he had issue four sons, the eldest of whom, named RICHARD, succeeded him in his titles and honours. His second son, GILBERT, received considerable grants of lands in Wales, and was afterwards created Earl of PEMBROKE, by King STEPHEN, A. D. 1138. He died in the year 1148, leaving issue RICHARD, surnamed STRONGBOW, his son and heir.

Such is the genealogical account of our hero, given by DUGDALE, who adds, that before he undertook the Irish expedition, he had been stripped of his paternal inheritance by King HENRY the SECOND; from which circumstance he might probably have been induced to risk such an adventure.

The genealogy of this illustrious chieftain, seems to be involved in some kind of mystery and obscurity; but to those who are conversant with the Irish History, and particularly with its *earliest* annals, it will be no matter of surprise, if they discover doubt, contradiction, and even fiction.

The most esteemed English writers, at the head of whom I must with justice place Sir WILLIAM DUGDALE, agree in giving to RICHARD STRONGBOW only *one* wife, who was EVA, daughter and heir to DERMOD MAC MOROGH, King of LEINSTER: and only *one* daughter (the issue of that marriage) named ISABEL, who was married to WILLIAM MARSHAL, Earl of

PEMBROKE. But the Irish historians add most *liberally* a *first* wife, a son, and another daughter to STRONGBOW's family; they do not, however, tell us the *lady's* name. They say, that the son, a youth of seventeen years, being present at the battle fought between STRONGBOW and O'RYAN, at ODRONE, was so alarmed at the savage howlings, and furious onset of the Irish, that he took to flight; upon which, his father, having reproached him for his cowardice, caused him to be put to death, by ordering, most barbarously, his body to be cut off in the middle. GIRALDUS, in giving an account of this engagement, makes use of a very singular and doubtful expression, which may, or may not, be applied to the death of this unfortunate young man. He says, "*Ubi (in passu Odronæ) commisso gravi conflictu, interfectis tandem hostium multis, præter juvenis unius casum, cum suis omnibus ad campana Comes indemnus evasit.*" MAURICE REGAN does not mention this battle, and his silence, as well as the equivocal expression of GIRALDUS [which appears to allude to this event] might be accounted for by the connexion between each of them and STRONGBOW. Sir JAMES WARE does not allude to the circumstance, but Sir RICHARD COX quotes it from another Irish historian, HANMER, and recites the epitaph that formerly

existed on the tomb of this *supposed* son of Earl STRONGBOW, in CHRIST CHURCH DUBLIN, and which will be given in my Journal.

I have lately seen a drawing of this youth, representing his effigy cut off in the middle*, taken by one DINELEY, who accompanied the first Duke of BEAUFORT, in his progress through Wales into Ireland, about the year 1684, and whose book is preserved in the library of the

* *Richard Stanihurst*, a native of Dublin, who wrote an account of Irish transactions in Latin, in the year 1584, gives, at page 171, a very circumstantial account of the death of Earl *Strongbow's* son, and states, that in his time the effigy and tomb, both of the father and son, were visible in the church of the *Holy Trinity*, (now *Christ Church*) at Dublin. He moreover wonders that this event, so generally known, should have escaped the notice of *Giraldus*.

“Hoc a *Giraldo Cambrense* oblivione obscuratum miror, cum tamen omnium sermone celebratissimum sit, et *Strangboi* monumentum, quod in sacrâ Trinitatis æde etiam usque ad hoc tempus extat, hujus facti memoriam significantius representat. Etenim

ibi videre licet lapideum sepulchrum,
Strangboi statuâ, e marmore sculptâ,
 coopertum; cui è sinistro latere
 adhærescit secti filii tumulus,
 ejusque simulachrum in marmore
 incisum, ubi utrâque manu ilia
 supportat.”

The Historian *Hanmer*, in his *Irish Chronicle*, p. 147, records the same story, and adds the epitaph before mentioned.

same noble family at BADMINTON. The effigy of the *supposed* father of Earl STRONGBOW, is represented by the side of his son. I make use of the word *supposed*, because from the armorial bearings that are sculptured upon the shield of this cross-legged knight, it is *certain* that they never belonged to the CLARE family. *Their* arms were, *Or, three chevronels gules: such* they are stated to be by the old Welsh historian ENDERBIE; and I have seen a manuscript by GEORGE OWEN, a celebrated Welsh antiquary, in which he says, that he *saw* the seal of RICHARD STRONGBOW, bearing the above arms. I have not been fortunate enough in my heraldic enquiries, to find out the owner of the arms that are sculptured on the shield of this Knight in CHRIST CHURCH, which are, "*Argent, on a chief azure, three crosses pattee fitchè of the field.*" It appears therefore probable, that the heralds attributed this *last coat* to STRONGBOW, from the authority of the *tomb* and effigy in question, which were ascribed to him by Sir HENRY SIDNEY, in the year 1570, but which certainly never belonged to him. It is clear, I think, that the Earl *died*, and was buried at DUBLIN, but still his body might have been afterwards removed to GLOUCESTER, where LELAND records an inscription to his memory. See *Journal*, page 141.

The existence of a *daughter* seems to rest

chiefly on the evidence of MAURICE REGAN*, who says, "A. D. 1173. The King being departed, the EARL RICHARD returned into FERNES, and there he gave his daughter in marriage to ROBERT de QUINEY†, and with her the inheritance of the DUFFREN, and the Constableness of LEINSTER, with the banner and the ensign of the same."

In order to reconcile these contradictions in history, we may suppose, that STRONGBOW had both a son and a daughter; but we cannot allow them to have been *legitimate*, nor have we sufficient authority to give the Earl *any other wife* than EVA before mentioned.

"The Earl was somewhat ruddy and of sanguine complexion, and freckled face; his eyes grey, his face feminine, his voice small, and his neck little, but somewhat of a high stature: he was very liberal, courteous, and gentle; what he could not compass and bring to pass in deed, he would win by good words, and

* *Maurice Regan* was Secretary and interpreter to *Dermot Mac Morogh*, King of *Leinster*, who wrote an account of the invasion of Ireland, in antiquated French verse, and which [with other tracts relating to that country] have been published in English prose by Mr. *Harris*, in a volume entitled *Hibernica*.

† Sir *James Ware* also mentions this marriage, but to *Robert de Quincy*, not *Quiney*. This family is mentioned by *Dugdale*, in his *Baronage*, as honoured with the title of Earls of *Winchester*.

gentle speeches. In time of peace he was more ready to yield and obey, than to rule and bear sway. Out of the camp he was more like to a soldier's companion than a captain or ruler; but in the camp and in the wars, he carried with him the state and countenance of a valiant captain. Of himself he would not adventure any thing, but being advised and set on, he refused no attempts: for of himself he would not rashly adventure, or presumptuously take any thing in hand. In the fight and battle he was a most assured token and sign to the whole company, either to stand valiantly to the fight, or for policy to retire. In all chances of war he was still one and the same manner of man, being neither dismayed with adversity, nor puffed by prosperity*."

* "*Comiti verò modus hic erat. Vir rubrufus, lentiginosus, oculis glaucis, facie famined, voce exili, collo contracto, per cetera ferè cuncta, corpore procero, vir liberalis et lenis. Quod re non poterat, verborum suavitate componebat. Togatus et inermis parere paratior, quàm imperare. Extra bellum plus militis, quàm ducis; in bello vero plus ducis quàm militis habens; omnia suorum audens consilio; nihil unquam ex se vel armis aggrediens vel animositate præsumens. In prælio positus fixum suis recuperationis et refugii signum manebat. In utraque belli fortunâ stabilis et constans, nec casibus adversis desperatione fluctuans, nec secundis ullâ levitate dissurrens.*"

II. ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN,

Was the son of STEPHEN, Constable of ABERTeivi, or CARDIGAN, by NESTA, or NEST, daughter of GRUFFYDH AP RHYS, Prince of SOUTH WALES. He was the *first* of the adventurers who set foot in Ireland, in the year 1170, as before related. GIRALDUS thus speaks in commendation of him :

“ O noble man, the only pattern of virtue, and the example of true industry and labour ; who, having tried the variableness of fortune, had tasted more adversity than prosperity ! O worthy man, who, both in Ireland and in Wales, had traced the whole compass of fortune’s wheel, and had endured whatsoever good fortune or evil could give.

“ He was of a large and full body, his countenance very comely ; and in stature he was somewhat more mean ; he was bountiful, liberal and pleasant, but yet sometimes somewhat above modesty, given to wine and women *.”

* “ *O virum virtutis unicum, verique laboris exemplum, fortunæ variæ, sortique adversæ plus-quàm prosperè semper obnoxium ! O virum toties tam in Hiberniâ quàm in Cambriâ utrasque rotæ circumferentias æquanimiter expertum, et omnia passum ;*

III. MAURICE FITZ-GERALD,

Was half-brother to the aforesaid ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN, by NEST, who, on the death of her former husband STEPHEN, Constable of ABERTEIVI, espoused GERALD de WINDSOR, who, for his military services, had received from King HENRY the FIRST, a grant of extensive possessions in SOUTH WALES, and had been appointed Governor of PEMBROKE Castle, and Lieutenant of that County. By NEST, he had issue three sons, WILLIAM, MAURICE, and DAVID; the latter of whom succeeded to the Episcopacy of SAINT DAVID, upon the death of BERNARD, the NORMAN, in 1147. MAURICE FITZ-GERALD had issue four sons, and a daughter, named NESTA, married in 1175, to HERVEY de MONT MAURICE, nephew to STRONGBOW. Of the male issue, GERALD and ALEXANDER particularly distinguished them-

*Quæ peior fortuna potest, atque omnibus usum,
Quæ melior!*

O verè Marium secundum Stephaniden! Cujus si felicitatem respexeris, felicissimum dixeris; si verò miserias, miserorum omnium miserrimum videas. Erat autem vir amplo corpore et integro, vultuque decenti, et staturâ paulò mediocritatem excedente; vir dapilis et largus, liberalis et jucundus sed vino Venerique transmodestiam datus."

selves by their bravery in the memorable sally from the city of Dublin, when besieged by Roderick, and an army of 30,000 men.

His character is thus delineated :

“ This MAURICE was a man of much nobility and worship, but somewhat shamefast, and yet very well coloured, and of a good countenance; of stature he was indifferent, being seemly and well compact at all points : in body and mind he was of a like composition, being not too great in the one, nor proud in the other ; of nature he was very courteous and gentle, and desired rather to be so indeed, than to be thought so to be : he kept such a measure and moderation in all his doings, that in his days he was a pattern of all sobriety and good behaviour : a man of few words, and his sentences more full of wit and reason, than of words and speeches ; he had more stomach than talk, more reason than speech, and more wisdom than eloquence. And whensoever any matter was to be debated, as he would take good leisure, and be advised before he would speak ; so when he spake, he did it very wisely and prudently. In martial affairs also he was very bold, stout and valiant, and yet not hasty to run headlong in any adventure. And as he would be well advised before he gave the attempt and the adventure, so when the same was once taken in hand, he

would stoutly pursue and follow the same. He was sober, modest and chaste ; constant, trusty and faithful : a man not altogether without fault, and yet not spotted with any notorious crime and fault *."

IV. REYMUND, surnamed LE GROS,

Was nephew to the two last distinguished chieftains, being the son of their elder brother WILLIAM †.

* "*Erat autem Mauritius vir venerabilis et verecundus; vultu colorato, decentique; mediocri quodam modicitate, tam mediocribus minor, quàm modicis major. Vir tam animo quàm corpore modificato; nec illo illato, nec hoc dilatato. Innatà vir bonitate bonus, et tamen longe curà propensiore bonus fieri, quàm videri malens.*

Mauricio modus, in omnibus servare modum; ut credi possit suarum partium suique temporis tam censura morum, quam facietiarum exemplum. Vir brevilocus et sermone perpauco sed ornato; puta, plus pectoris habens quàm oris, plus rationis quàm orationis, plus sapientia quàm eloquentia. Et tamen cum sermonem res exigebat, ad sententiam dicendam, sicut serus, sic scientissimus. Rebus quoque in Martiis, vir animosus; et nulli ferè strenuitate secundus. Ad capessenda tamen pericula, nec impetuosus nec præceps; sed sicut providus in aggrediendis, sic pertinax erat in aggressis. Vir sobrius, modestus, et castus; stabilis, firmus, atque fidelis. Vir quidem non expers criminis, crimine tamen omni notabili carens et enormi."

† Some pedigrees differ with respect to the seniority of William and Maurice Fitz-Gerald; but the doubt has been cleared in favour of the former by their relation Giraldus, who, in speaking of Reymund, styles him "*tam Stephanidæ quam Mauritiū ex fratre primævo nepos.*"

Such is the picture of this distinguished general:

“REYMUND was big-bodied and broad-set, of stature somewhat more than the mean, his hair yellow and curled, his eyes big, grey and round; his nose somewhat high, his countenance well coloured, pleasant, and merry. And although he were somewhat gross-bellied, yet by reason of a certain liveliness which was in him, he covered that fault; and so that which seemed to be a blemish in his body, he covered with the virtue of his mind. He had such a special care of his men and soldiers, that he would be a spy over his watchmen, and in his travell that way, he watched many whole nights, ranging and walking abroad in the camps. And in this he was very happy and fortunate, that he would never, or very seldom, lay violent hands upon any of whom he had charge, or were under his government, although he had rashly or unadvisedly overthrown himself and strayed out of the way.

“He was very wise, modest, and wary, being nothing delicate in his fare, nor curious of his apparel. He could away with all weathers, both hot and cold: and endure any pains: he was also very patient, and could very well rule his affections. He was more desirous to do good to such as he governed, than to be glo-

rious of his government; for he would shew himself more like to be a servant than a master. Finally, and to conclude, he was a very liberal, wise, gentle, and a circumspect man: and albeit he were a very valiant captain, and a noble soldier; yet in all martial affairs, he passed and excelled in wisdom and providence. A man doubtless in both respects much to be praised and commended; having in him whatsoever appertained to a valiant soldier, but excelling in all things belonging to a good captain*.

* “*Erat itaque Reymundus vir amplæ quantitatis, staturæque paulo plus quàm mediocris; capillis flavis et subcrispis, oculis grossis, glaucis et rotundis, naso mediocriter elato, vultu colorato, hilari ac sereno; et quanquam carnosâ superfluitate ventre turgescens, naturalem tamen corporis gravitatem innatâ cordis redimens vivacitate, carnis vitium animi virtute levabat. Super exercitus cura noctes ducebat insomnes, et tanquam excubiarum excubator, mirabili sollicitudine nocte totâ circumeundo gyronagus, clamorosus, errabundus excubare solebat. Felix in hoc et fortunatus, quod vel nunquam, vel rarissimè, cui præerat, manus, aut temerariis ausibus, aut per incuriam oberraverit. Vir modestus et providus, nec cibo nec veste delicatus. Caloris ei algorisque patientia par; vir patiens iræ, patiensque laboris. Quibus præsidebat, prodesse magis quàm præesse, potiusque minister quàm magister videri volens. Ut autem viri virtutes, mores et modos sub brevitate concludam; vir erat liberalis et lenis, providus et prudens. Et quanquam animosus plurimum, et armis instructus, prudentiâ tamen rebus in Martiis et providentiâ præcellebat. Vir in utroque laudabilis, multum quidem militis habens, plus quàm ducis.*”

V. MEYLER FITZ-HENRY,

Was descended from HENRY, the illegitimate son of King HENRY the First, by his concubine NEST.

“ MEYLER was a man of a brown hue and complexion, his eyes black, his look grim, and his countenance sour and sharp, and of a mean stature; his body for the bigness very strong, and broad-breasted, and he was small-bellied. His arms and other limbs more sinewous than fleshy, a stout and a valiant gentleman he was, and emulous. He never refused any adventure or enterprize which were either to be done by one alone, or by more; he would be the first that would enter the field, and the last that would depart from the same. In all services he would either have the garland, or die in the place; and so impatient was he in all exploits, that he would either have his purpose, or lie in the dust; and so ambitious and desirous he was to have honour, and to attain thereunto, there was no means nor mild thing but that he would surely have the same either in death, or in life; for, if he could not have it and live, he would surely have it by dying. And verily both he

and REYMUND have been worthy of too much praise and commendation, if they had been less ambitious of worldly honours, and more careful of Christ's church, and devout in christian religion, whereby the ancient rights thereof might have been preserved and kept safe and sound; and also in consideration of their so many conquests and bloody victories, and of the spilling of so much innocent blood, and of murdering of so many christian people, they had been thankful to God, and liberally contributed some good portion for the furtherance of his church and religion. But what shall I say? It is not so strange, but much more to be lamented, that this unthankfulness, even from our first coming into this land, untill these presents, this hath been the general and common fault of all our men*."

* *Meylerius verò vir fuscus, oculis nigris, et torvis, vultuque acerrimo. Staturæ paulò mediocri plus pusillæ; corpore tamen pro quantitatis captu pervalido. Pectore quadrato, ventreque substricto, brachiis cæterisque membris ossosis, plus nervositatis habentibus, quàm carnositatis. Miles animosus et æmulus. Nihil unquam abhorrens, quod aggredi quis vel solus debeat vel comitatus. Primus in prælium ire; ultimus conserto prælio redire consuetus; in omni conflictu omnis strenuitatis opera seu perire paratus seu præire; adeo impatiens et præceps, ut vel vota statim, vel fata complere dignum ducat. Inter mortis et Martis triumphos, nil medium ponens, adeo laudis cupidus et gloriæ, quod si vivendo forte non valeat, vincere velit vel moriendo. Vir itaque fuisset cumulatâ laude dignus uterque, si ambitione posthabita, Christi ecclesiam debitâ devotione venerantes*

VI. HERVEY, surnamed DE MONTE MAURISCO,

Is said to have been uncle to Earl STRONGBOW, but I am at a loss to make out the relationship.

“As we have of others, so let us also now make and set forth the description of HERVEY. He was of stature a tall and comely man, his eyes grey, and somewhat big, amiable of face, and pleasant of countenance, an eloquent man, having a long and round neck, his shoulders somewhat low, his arms and hands something long; he was broad-breasted, but small in waist, though the same being big in others is thought to be commendable: his belly was somewhat big and round; his thighs, legs and feet being well proportionated and answerable to his body;

antiqua et autentica ejusdem jura non tantum illibata conservassent, Quinimò tam novæ, tamque cruentæ conquisitionis, (plurimâ quippe sanguinis effusiones Christianæque gentis interemptione fædatæ) partem placabilem Deoque placentem, laudabili largitione contulissent. Vcruntamen quod magis stupendum est, ampliorique dolore dolendum; postremum hoc vitium toti ferè militiæ nostræ à primo adventu, usque in hodiernum constat commune fuisse.”

The word *uterque*, here made use of, alludes to REYMUND as well as MEYLER.

of stature he was indifferent. But as in body he was well beset and compact, so, on the contrary, his mind, life, and conversation were corrupt and disordered. For ever from his childhood he was given to lechery, being ready and forward to perform in wanton and filthy actions, whatsoever liked him or any others, who were of the like disposition : and therefore he forbore neither incest nor adulteries, nor any other such like filthiness. Besides, he was a privy and envious accuser, and a double man, uncertain, vain, and altogether inconstant, saving in inconstancy ; a very subtle man, and a deceitful : under his tongue he had both milk and honey, but both of them were mixed with poison. He was sometimes in great prosperity, and all things fell out according to his own desire ; and suddenly fortune turning her wheel, he had such a fall, that he did never recover the same again. He was sometimes a very good soldier, and had good experience in the feats of war, after the manner used in France ; but he was so suddenly altered and changed, that he became more skilful in malice, than valiant in prowess, more full of deceit, than renowned in honour, more hastie than happy, and more full of words, than abounding in truth*.”

* “ *Erat autem Herveius vir procerus et pulcher, oculis glaucis et prominentibus, aspectu amabili, vultuque venusto, verbis ornatis,*

Another character should not be totally passed over in silence, namely NEST, the mother of so many distinguished youths: This celebrated female began her career in life by being concubine to King HENRY the FIRST, by whom she had issue a son named HENRY, from whom descended ROBERT and MEYLER FITZ-HENRY.

She afterwards married GERALD DE WINDSOR, Constable of PEMBROKE, and by him had three sons, WILLIAM, MAURICE and DAVID: the eldest of whom was father to the gallant REYMUND LE GROS.

collo tereti et longo, in infidam capitis columnam erecto, demissis humeris, et tam manibus quam brachiis decenter in longum protentis. Pectore mediocriter quadrato, medio tæro, quod plerisque sine lege turgescere solet, naturaliter et modestè substricto demùm in amplitudinem pectori proportionalem, versus ilia descendente. Denique tam coxis quam tiliis et pedibus per omnia militaribus partique corporis superiori non ineleganter respondentibus. Statura quoque vir erat immodicæ mediocritatis modum excedente. Sed quantum, exteriorem hominem multiplici natura dote beaverat; tantum et interiorem variis vitiorum maculis malitia deformaverat. Erat quippe vir a pueritâ vœneri datus, et quicquid in omni libidine vel aliis in ipsum, vel ipsi in alios collibuerat, exercere paratus; nec incestus ullos, nec adulteria vitans, vir invidus, delator et duplex; vir subdolus, facetus, et fallax. Cujus sub linguâ mel, et lac veneno confecta. Vir vagus et vanus præter inconstantie solius, nullius rei constantiam habens. In summis rotæ gradibus quandoque constitutus, sed irremeabili descensu, et irreparabili jam casu, versus ima volubilitate dilapsus, vir olim Gallicâ militiâ strenuus, sed hodiè plus habens malitiæ quàm militiæ; plus fraudis quàm laudis, plus eminentiæ quàm existentie, plus festivitatis quàm sacunditatis, plus verbositatis, quàm civitatis."

After the death of GERALD, she gave her hand to STEPHEN, Constable of ABERTEIVI*, and by him had ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN, the *first* of the English adventurers who landed in Ireland.

Thus sprung up [*from one Nest,*] four of the most distinguished chieftains who attempted the conquest of Ireland. She had also a daughter, named ANGHARAD, who married WILLIAM de BARRI, of MANORBEER, in PEMBROKESHIRE, by whom she had four sons, ROBERT, PHILIP, WALTER, and GIRALD, nicknamed CAMBRENSIS, or the *Welshman*. The eldest son ROBERT, accompanied FITZ-STEPHEN into IRELAND, and was the first man who attempted to scale the walls of WEXFORD. GIRALDUS has drawn this parallel between the characters of ROBERT de BARRI and MEYLER FITZ-HENRY, both nephews to ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN. "They both were of like valiantness, but of sundry dispositions and natures. For MEYLER being ambitious and desirous of honour, referred all his doings to that end; and whatsoever he attempted, was to advance his fame and credit, making

† *Rhys* took Robert the son of *Stephen* prisoner (his cousin German) son to *Nest* his aunt; who *after the death of Girald*, had married *Stephen*, Constable, *Enderbie*, p. 278; but *Hooker*, the annotator on *Giraldus*, says that the *third* husband of *Nest* was *Girald de Windsor*.

more account to be reported, and have the name of a valiant man, than to be so in deed. The other (ROBERT de BARRI) being of a certain natural disposition, both noble and valiant, was neither a greedy seeker of laud and praise, nor an ambitious craver of fame and honour; but being always among the best, did rather seek and travel to be the best, than to be only counted the best. Besides he was naturally endued with such a maidenly shamefastness, and being no bragger nor boaster, would neither glorify his own doings, nor yet like well of any others which would do so of him. By means whereof it came to pass, that the less ambitious and desirous he was of honour, the more the same followed him: for glory and honour, always follow virtue (as the shadow the body) shunning them who do not seek for her, and following them who do least regard her *."

* *In iis verò conflictibus, sicut et in aliis cunctis, inter universos strenuitate laudabili, cum Roberto Barrensi Meylerius emicuit. Erant enim hi duo adolescentuli ambo. Stephanidæque alter ex fratre, alter ex sorore nepotes. Moribus diversis, variæque naturæ; solâ tamen animositate ferè persimili.*

Meylerius namque laudis amator et gloriæ, cuncta sui gesta ad hæc summoperè referens; quicquid ejus famam amplificare potuerat, illud ad implere modis omnibus satagebat, longæque majori curâ cûderi virtuosus quam esse cupiebat. Alter verò (Robertus de Barri) innatâ strenuitate vâldè præclarus, nec laudis exactor, nec aurè

This gallant youth was killed at LISMORE in 1184: in the year preceding which event, his brother PHILIP and GIRALD (*Cambrensis*) had come over to the assistance of their countryman FITZ-STEPHEN. The memory of the former (PHILIP) was recorded by an equestrian statue of brass, which was set up in the church of BALLYBEG, where he had endowed a friary. See *Journal*, page 122.

Such are the characters drawn by GIRALDUS of his countrymen, who undertook the *Invasion of Ireland*. This picture has been represented as too flattering: and he has been frequently accused of *partiality* in relating the military and civil transactions that took place during that period. But *where* and *when* can we find strict impartiality in the pen of an historian: the ties of consanguinity may have biassed in some degree both his pen and his judgment; but when we consider, that they were recorded by him in the year 1187, and

popularis aucupator; inter primos præcipuus magis esse volebat, quàm videri. Cui et animum natura sic instituerat; ut puellari verecundiâ nec jactabundus, nec verbosus existens, egregia sui facinora nec ipse prædicare, nec ab aliis in laudem efferri gestiebat. Unde et effectum est, ut quo minus gloriam appeteret, tanto amplius eam assequeretur. Gloria namque virtutes, quasi umbra, sequitur, et appetitores sui deserit, appetit contemptores; plerumque nimirum plus eo ipso placent, quod placere contemnunt; et miram in modum laus, dum vitatur, acquiritur."

only seventeen years after the events took place, it would be the height of injustice in us not to allow to *him* more credit and responsibility than to the *modern* historians, who record those events at a much later period.

Having traced the footsteps of these brave adventurers, from the period of their first landing in Ireland, A.D. 1170, to the death of their leader, STRONGBOW; and having related the various successes and reverses of fortune which they encountered in their bold and perilous undertaking; let us now follow them to their graves, and briefly recount the ultimate fate that attended these gallant chieftains.

The death of STRONGBOW, which took place in the begining of June, 1176, was shortly followed by that of MAURICE FITZ-GERALD, who died at WEXFORD, in the month of September following, and was buried in the Monastery of GREY FRIARS, without the city walls; but his monument, at the time when HOOKER wrote, viz. 1586, was nearly destroyed.

The gallant REYMUND, who, after the death of STRONGBOW, resigned the reins of government to WILLIAM FITZ-ADELM*, is said to

* William *Fitz-Adelm* according to *Sir Richard Cox*, was related to the crown; for *Arlotte* mother of *William the Con-*

have been buried in an abbey on the island of MOLANA near BALLINATRAY, on the River BLACKWATER, between YOUGHAL and LISMORE*; but from the following passage in the *Monasticon*, some doubts I think may be entertained about the place of his interment. In speaking of the ABBEY of ST. THOMAS at DUBLIN, Mr. ARCHDALE says, “ that REYMUND FITZ-WILLIAM, (so called from being the son of WILLIAM FITZ-GERALD) and his wife BASILEA, daughter of Earl GILBERT (and sister to STRONGBOW) directed their bodies to be buried in that abbey, to which they made considerable grants and donations.” The said BASILEA seems to have intermarried with GEOFFRY FITZ-ROBERT, after the death of REYMUND.

TO ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN, and MILO DE COGAN, King HENRY in a parliament held at OXFORD, A.D. 1177, made a grant of the kingdom of CORK, in reward for their good conduct and able services. By this grant [a copy of which is given by Mr. SMITH in his *History of*

queror was married to *Harlowen de Burgō* by whom she had *Robert*, Earl of *Cornwal*, who had issue *William* Earl of *Cornwal* who had issue *Adelm*; and *John-William Fitz-Adelm* was the son of this *Adelm*.

* See Journal, page 104.

Cork, vol i. page 39] the King gives unto ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN and MILO DE COGAN, the government of his City of CORK, with the cantred that belonged to the Ostmen of the said city, to have and to hold during his royal pleasure. He also grants and confirms to them and their heirs, all the kingdom of CORK, excepting the said city and cantred, by service of thirty knights to be performed to him, his son JOHN, and their heirs, by ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN and his heirs, and by an equal service from MILO DE COGAN and his heirs.

Two years afterwards FITZ-STEPHEN and MILO made a partition of seven cantreds that lay contiguous to the city, three of which, eastward, fell to the lot of FITZ-STEPHEN, being the best; and four, westward, became the portion of MILO. The government of the city remained in common to them both; and the tribute of the other twenty-four cantreds which remained undivided, was to be equally distributed between them, whenever they should be brought into subjection.

In the year 1184, the brave MILO DE COGAN, whilst travelling in company with five other knights towards LISMORE was treacherously murdered. I cannot find out the precise time when his colleague FITZ-STEPHEN died. Dr. LELAND says, that grief, vexation, and fa-

tigue, had proved too heavy for his years, and deprived the unhappy veteran of his reason." (vol i. page 139.)

In 1185 died HERVEY of MOUNT MAURICE. This turbulent chieftain had in the year 1179 entered into the monastery of the HOLY TRINITY at CANTERBURY, and there taking upon him the habit of the order, led a solitary and religious life, upon which his biographer exclaims, "*Qui, utinam sicut habitum, sic et animum; sicut militiam sic et malitiam deposuisset.*"

The English adventurers were shortly followed to the grave by their two most strenuous Irish opponents. The death of DONALD O'BRIEN King of LIMERICK is said to have taken place in the year 1194. A rich monument is attributed to him at the abbey of HOLY CROSS in the County of TIPPERARY, but I think *erroneously*, as I shall state in my Journal. Mr. ARCHDALE says, that "his son DONAGH CARBREACH O'BRIEN was interred A.D. 1241, in the Dominican Friary at LIMERICK, and that his statue was placed over the tomb."

In the year 1198 died the celebrated chieftain and *nóminál* King of Ireland, RODERICK O'CONNOR, in whom (according to WARE) ended the Irish monarchy, and settled in the per-

son of HENRY THE SECOND, King of England: he was ever a most strenuous advocate for the freedom of his native country, and an active opposer to the invaders.

His rebellious and undutiful sons had deposed him from his government of CONNAUGHT, and obliged him to seek shelter within the cloystered walls of the abbey of CONG in the county of MAYO, where he died at the advanced age of eighty-two, after a religious retirement of fifteen years; and was buried in the great church at CLONMACNOISE, on the north side of the high altar.*

MEYLER FITZ-HENRY, who had enjoyed the high office of Justiciary of Ireland, was the last survivor of his brave companions in arms. He

* This Augustin monastery situated on the river *Shannon* in the *King's County*, was one of the richest establishments in Ireland. Mr. *Archdale*, who has given its annals at large, says, "that its landed property was so great, and the number of cells and monasteries subjected to it so numerous, that almost half of Ireland was said to be within the bounds of *Clonmacnoise*. Though it was held in great superstitious reverence by the princes and natives, and esteemed the *Jona* of Ireland, yet it was frequently plundered and burnt by the Danes or Ostmen.

Jona is an island in the Hebrides, celebrated for having been the religious retirement of *Columba*, a native of Ireland, who about the year 565 left his own country with resentment, and vowing never to make a settlement within sight of that hated island. Here he founded a monastick establishment: and here he died at an advanced age, and was interred; though the Irish

died in the year 1220, and was interred in the chapter house of the abbey of CONNAL * with the following rude epitaph :

*“ Conduntur tumulo Meyleri nobilis ossa,
Indomitus domitar totius gentis Hybernix.”*

writers say that his body was translated to Down, and deposited with those of two other saints, *St. Brigid* and *St. Patrick*. They also quote the following epitaph, written to commemorate the above event,

*“ Hi tres in DUNO tumulo tumulantur in uno ;
Brigida, Patricius, atque Columba pius.”*

Though the Scots deny the fact, and lay claim to *Columba's* remains. After the Saint's death, the island took the name of *Y-Columb-cill* or the *Isle of the Cell of Columba*. Several ruins still remain to testify the high veneration in which this holy ground was formerly held, and in it are said to have been interred the bodies of several Scots, Irish, and Norwegian kings. A full account of this island and its antiquities may be found in *Pennant's Tour through Scotland*, volume i. page 278.

* This religious house is styled, in the *Monasticon*, *Great Connall*, and gives name to a Barony in the County of *Kildare*, on the banks of the river *Liffey*. A Priory was founded here in the year 1202 by *Meyler Fitz-Henry*, who filled it with regular canons from the monastery of *Lanthoni* in *Monmouthshire*. At the time when *Mr. Archdale* states this removal of canons to have taken place from *Wales* into *Ireland*, the priory of *Lanthoni* was in a neglected, if not a *deserted* state. It was founded about the year 1108 by the *Lacy* family, and on account of the frequent interruptions and molestations its inhabitants received from the native mountaineers, this religious establishment was removed in 1136 to the neighbourhood of *Gloucester*, where a magnificent

The subsequent state of Ireland, and the various rebellions that at intervals agitated that unhappy country, have been so amply detailed by different writers, that any discussion of them from my pen would be superfluous ; nor should I have so far transgressed the defined limits of a *Journal* by entering upon *historical* ground, had not the circumstances attending the English Invasion appeared to me highly interesting, and to have been too slightly recorded by the generality of Irish historians.

The events that transpired in the course of these six years, namely from the *first* landing of ROBERT FITZ-STEPHEN at WEXFORD in the year 1170, to the death of Earl STRONGBOW at DUBLIN in 1176, cannot be read without feeling a considerable degree of interest for the bold adventurers who engaged in this hazardous enterprize ; and that interest is considerably heightened by seeing before us their *portraits* and *characters* drawn by one of their *cotemporaries*, GIRALDUS DE BARRI ; and

abbey was built, and called, after the name of the Mother Church *Lanthoni* : so that I think this priory at *Connal* in Ireland was more probably supplied with monks from the *daughter* at *Gloucester*, than from the *mother* in *Monmouthshire*. In the year 1202 *Geoffrey de Henelawe* was prior of the former abbey, and was translated to the see of *St. David's* in the following year.

Father *Clynn* places the foundation of *Connal* in the year 1211.

whether the imputation of *partiality* (with which he has been taxed by the Irish writers) towards his kinsmen and relations, be justly founded or not; we cannot but regard the *Historical Annals* he has recorded, as a precious gift to posterity, and a most valuable acquisition to the literary world.

CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISION OF IRELAND.

To the Tourist, who wishes to have some general information respecting the natural situation, and political divisions of Ireland, the following extracts from Dr. BEAUFORT's highly esteemed Memoir, may prove useful.

In speaking of the extent of this island, he says, "The greatest length of Ireland extends from north-east to south-west; and a line so drawn between the two most remote points, FAIR-HEAD and MIZEN-HEAD, would cut the meridian in an angle of thirty degrees, and measure 241 Irish miles, which somewhat exceed 306 of English statute measure. The longest line that can be stretched across the kingdom, would measure 163 Irish, or 207 English miles, from EMLAGH-RASH in MAYO, to CARNSORE POINT, in the County of WEXFORD, and this line would intersect the former in an angle of 75 degrees. But from the STAGS of CORK HARBOUR, to BLOODY FARLAND POINT, in DONEGAL, is the greatest length that can be measured along a meridian, and it will not exceed 185 Irish, or $235\frac{1}{2}$ English miles. If the

breadth be measured in the same manner nearly on a parallel of latitude, the true breadth of the island will appear to be as follows :

Between TIELLEN HEAD and ISLAND MAGEE, 98 Irish, or 124 English miles.

Between EMLAGH-RASH and the mouth of the STRANGFORD LOUGH, 143 Irish, or 182 English miles.

Between SLIME-HEAD and the POINT of HOATH, 137 Irish, or 174 English miles.

Between DUNMORE-HEAD and the GREENORE POINT in WEXFORD, 136 Irish, or 173 English miles.

“ But there is not a spot in the kingdom *fifty* miles distant from the sea ; which will not appear surprising, when we observe, that between the Bays of DUBLIN and GALWAY, there are but 86 miles, and no more than 67 between DUNDALK and BALLYSHANNON.

“ With respect to the superficial contents of Ireland ; not being able to discover any documents of authority in the public offices, I have made a computation of it, by very carefully measuring the *area* of each county on my map, and after rejecting all fractions, I have no hesitation in asserting, that Ireland contains considerably more than 18,750 square miles, or several thousand acres above twelve millions *Irish* measure ; which is equal to 30,370 *English* miles, or 19,436,000 *English* acres.

“IRELAND is divided with respect to its civil or political divisions, into *four* provinces, ULSTER, LEINSTER, CONNAUGHT, and MUNSTER.

ULSTER comprises the *nine* Northern Counties,
viz.

	Baronies.	Parishes.	Acres.
Armagh, containing	5	20	181,450
Down	8	60	348,550
Antrim	8	77	387,200
London-derry	4	31	318,500
Donegal	4	42	679,550
Tyrone	4	35	463,700
Fermanagh	8	18	283,450
Cavan	7	30	301,000
Monaghan	5	19	179,600
Lough Neagh covers			58,200

LEINSTER comprises the *twelve* Eastern Counties.

Louth, containing	4	61	110,750
Meath	12	147	327,900
Dublin	6	107	142,050
Wicklow	6	58	311,600
Wexford	8	142	342,900
Kilkenny	9	127	300,350
Carlow	5	50	137,050
Kildare	10	113	236,750
Queen's County	8	50	235,300
King's County	11	52	282,200
Westmeath	12	62	231,550
Longford	6	23	134,150

CONNAUGHT comprises the *five* Western Counties.

	Baronies.	Parishes.	Acres.
Galway, containing	16	116	989,950
Mayo	9	68	790,600
Sligo	6	39	247,150
Leitrim	5	17	255,950
Roscommon	6	56	346,650

MUNSTER comprises the *six* Southern Counties.

Cork, containing	16	269	1,048,800
Kerry	8	83	647,650
Clare	9	79	476,200
Limerick	9	125	386,750
Tipperary	10	186	554,950
Waterford	7	74	262,800

	Baronies.	Parishes.	Acres.
Ulster	53	332	3,201,200
Leinster	97	992	2,792,550
Connaught	42	296	2,630,300
Munster	59	816	3,377,150

12,001,200

“All fractions having been excluded from this calculation, it is very much *under* the full number of *acres* in Ireland.”

ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISION. The kingdom is divided *ecclesiastically* as well as *civilly*, into

four provinces; but the *civil* and *ecclesiastical* boundaries are far from coinciding. An Archbishop presides over each. The *seven* Bishops of the Northern Province are suffragans to the Archbishop of Armagh, who is Lord Primate, and Metropolitan of *all* Ireland. The Archbishop of Dublin is Lord Primate of Ireland, and has *three* suffragan Bishops in the Eastern Province. The Southern Province, with its *five* suffragans, is under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Cashel, Lord Primate of Munster; and the Archbishop of Tuam, Lord Primate of Connaught, presides over the *three* Bishops of the Western Province.

The number of Deaneries is 33, and of Archdeaconries 34; but the Archdeacons have not a *visitatorial* jurisdiction; the government of the church of Ireland, which is in most things conformable to that of England, differing with respect to *visitations*; for in Ireland, the Bishops hold a visitation *annually*, and the Archbishop visits his suffragans every *third* year.

The Province of Armagh contains *ten* dioceses, viz. 1. Archbishopric of Armagh. 2. Bishopric of Dromore. 3. Down. 4, 5. Connor and Derry united. 6. Raphoe. 7. Clogher. 8. Kilmore. 9. Ardagh. 10. Meath.

The Province of Dublin contains *five* Dioceses, viz. 1. Archbishopric of Dublin.

2. Bishopric of Kildare. 3. Ossory. 4, 5. Fernes and Leighlin united.

The Province of Cashel contains *eleven* Dioceses, viz. 1. Archbishopric of Cashel, and Bishopric of Emly, (united with Cashel,) 2, 3. Waterford and Lismore united. 4, 5. Cork and Ross. 6. Cloyne. 7, 8, 9. Limerick, Ardfert, and Aghadoe, united. 10, 11. Killaloe and Kilfenora.

The Province of Tuam contains *six* Dioceses. 1. Archbishopric of Tuam. 2, 3. Bishoprics of Clonfert and Killmacduagh united. 4. Elphin. 5. Killala. 6. Achonry.

In the above arrangement, the Dioceses are placed with respect to *contiguity*, not according to *rank*; for the Bishop of Meath has *precedence* of all Bishops, and, next to him, Kildare: the others take place according to the date of their consecration.

JOURNAL

OF

A TOUR IN IRELAND.

A. D. 1806.

MONDAY, 23d June—In the evening I sailed from HOLYHEAD in the Union Packet, Captain SKINNER; and after a rough and tedious passage of twenty-three hours, landed at the Pidgeon House; from whence a vehicle very appropriately called *The Long Coach**, (holding sixteen inside passengers, and as many outside, with all their luggage) conveyed us to DUBLIN, distant about two miles from the place of landing. Passengers are al-

* A most daring attack was made a short time ago upon this coach by a large gang of robbers, who ordered the passengers to dismount, and plundered them one by one; the mail carrier was also fired at by the same people. When this vehicle is known to convey so many of the principal nobility, gentry, and merchants from *Dublin* to the Packet boat, a regular horse patrolle to attend the coach from the office, could be attended with no inconvenience to Government, and would ensure the property of many individuals.

B

lowed to take their parcels, &c. with them ; but carriages and trunks are obliged to go to the Custom House, and undergo a tedious and imposing search. The proprietor must value his carriage as he thinks reasonable : and he is charged on that valuation, four and a half per cent ; but here the matter does not end ; for besides the duty to Government, I paid no less than twelve different officers of the customs *.

We had scarcely got rid of a most importunate host of boatmen, porters, &c. demanding loudly their fees, than we were desired to dismount from our vehicle, as apprehensions were entertained for the safety of the bridge over which we were obliged to pass †.

There is nothing commanding in this approach to DUBLIN : a number of narrow passes, and bridges barricadoed, still remind the traveller of the late rebellion. Passing through MERRION Square, we drove to the mail coach office in DAWSON Street, but fixed our quarters at

* So near an alliance having taken place between *England* and *Ireland*, it is to be hoped that this vexatious ceremony will shortly be dispensed with, or at least its abuses reformed.

† When such large sums are annually expended at *Dublin* on less useful buildings and improvements, it surely reflects no credit on the Government of a country, that the bridge of communication between *England* and *Ireland* should have remained for so long a time in a dangerous state.

LEECH's Hotel, in KILDARE Street *, where we found excellent accommodations.

The City of DUBLIN is more remarkable for its fine public buildings, than for its squares or streets; the latter, though planned upon an extensive scale, want neatness and symmetry; but the former unite elegance of design and grandeur, with good execution. Of these the most conspicuous are, the CUSTOM HOUSE, the LAW COURTS, the EXCHANGE, the late PARLIAMENT HOUSE, and TRINITY COLLEGE.

The CUSTOM HOUSE, if visited from the opposite side of the river, has a very striking effect; and this fine building, combined with the numerous shipping immediately adjoining it, reminded me strongly of those subjects which the painter CANALETTI selected at VENICE for his pencil. Its outward appearance is magnificent, and the *minutiæ* of its decorations will bear the closest examination; the key stones over the arches deserve particular notice: they allude to the rivers of IRELAND; all of which, except that of the ANNA LIFFEY, are represented by male heads; the latter river, which runs through the City of DUBLIN, is distinguished by a female head. These fine characters were executed by Mr. EDWARD SMYTH,

* *Dublin* (like *London*) abounds in excellent hotels; and no street more than *Kildare Street*: there are also others very good in *Sackville Street*.

and will do him immortal credit. The bas reliefs in the pediment are far inferior in point of execution : many defects may also be found in the general mass of architecture. The chimnies are heavy, and the ornaments annexed to the heads, are too trifling. The centre part of the back front, decorated with four statues, is very bad ; and the bas relief, in the front pediment, fails in design : the figure of commerce on the dome, is too massive in its proportions, as well as the Lion and Unicorn on the back part ; indeed the whole of the upper part, with its projecting cornice, is too heavy for the lower part of the mouldings. Convenience seems to have been as much consulted in the interior of this edifice, as grandeur of design in the exterior. The hall of business, called the *Long Room*, is a most spacious apartment, seventy feet square. The whole of this extensive edifice was designed and executed by Mr. JAMES GANDON, a London architect, and the foundation stone laid on the 8th of August, 1781 *.

The LAW COURTS on the same side of the river as the custom house, form a magnificent pile of building. The approach to the four courts, which are all uniform, is from a noble

* A view of the old Custom House erected A.D. 1707, is engraved in *Harris's History of Dublin*.

hall. The sculptural decorations are by Mr. EDWARD SMYTH, a native artist. The building was begun in 1776, by Mr. THOMAS COOLEY, architect, who lived only to complete the western wing. The remainder was terminated by Mr. JAMES GANDON. The foundation stone of the part containing the Courts, was laid on the 13th March, 1786, by CHARLES, DUKE OF RUTLAND, then Lord Lieutenant. Previous to the erection of this building, the LAW COURTS were held under one roof in CHRIST CHURCH LANE; prior to which period, they were separate and ambulatory, being removed as convenience and safety made it expedient.

Some objections may be made to the architecture of this building, particularly to the dome encompassed by columns, which, owing to the base rising so high above the rest of the building, has a very bad effect; its proportions as a *detached* temple would be more just: this defect is very visible from the opposite side of the river, (which is the best situation to view the general effect of the building) where the over-massive proportions of the dome and colonnade tend to lessen and injure those of the beautiful portico beneath, to which they should be only a *second**.

* A plan is in agitation of extending the Quay along the banks of the *Liffey* from the Custom house to the Law Courts,

The EXCHANGE, in my opinion, exceeds in the beauty of its interior, every other public building in DUBLIN. Its form and peculiarities are thus described by an able artist, Mr. JAMES MALTON, who has published a folio volume of exact and well executed views of all the principal buildings in DUBLIN; from whom I have extracted some particulars in this my sketch, and to whom I refer those of my readers, who may wish for more minute information on the subject. He says, "that on entering this edifice, the attention is called to many conspicuous beauties; but above all, to the general form. Twelve fluted pillars of the Composite Order, thirty-two feet high, are circularly disposed in the centre of a square area, covered by a highly enriched entablature; above which is a beautiful cylindrical lantern, about ten feet high, perforated by twelve circular windows, ornamented with festoons of laurel leaves: the whole crowned with a handsome spherical dome, divided into hexagonal compartments, enriched and well proportioned, and lighted from the centre by a large circular skylight." Its form is that of a fine rotundo within a square, and is admirably suited to the purpose it is destined. This building was plan-

which will add much to the beauty, as well as to the convenience of the city.

ned and executed under the immediate direction of Mr. THOMAS COOLEY, who obtained the first premium given by the Trustees for the best design ; and was the means of introducing this able architect into IRELAND. The foundation stone was laid in 1769, by LORD TOWNSHEND, and was opened in 1779 : its expence is estimated at forty thousand pounds.

The PARLIAMENT HOUSE, presents a *façade* of beautiful architecture, and being placed nearly at right angles with the west front of TRINITY COLLEGE, produces a very grand effect. Mr. HARRIS, in his *History of Dublin*, says, that it was begun in 1729, (during the administration of JOHN LORD CARTERET) by Sir EDWARD LOVET PEARCE, engineer and surveyor general, and completed by ARTHUR DOBBS, Esq. (who succeeded him in that office) about the year 1739, at the expence of about forty thousand pounds.

Since the Union between ENGLAND and IRELAND, the original destination of this fine building has been changed, and it is now undergoing alterations to fit it for a National Bank.

TRINITY COLLEGE, or the University of DUBLIN, is a handsome pile of building. Its widely extended front, facing DAME Street, adds a great ornament to the city ; and on entering through the gateway in the centre, the

eye is struck with the general appearance of the area within, and particularly with two elegant stone buildings with Corynthian porticos corresponding, and facing each other on the right and left. The library is a magnificent room, and surpassed only by that of TRINITY COLLEGE at CAMBRIDGE*; it has lately received a very considerable addition to its collection of books by the purchase of the FAGEL Library from HOLLAND. Various unsuccessful attempts were made to found an University at DUBLIN by SIR HENRY SIDNEY, SIR JOHN PERROT, and other eminent men; but the credit is due to Archbishop LORTUS, who, by his eloquence, prevailed upon the Mayor and Citizens of DUBLIN to give them the site of the dissolved monastery of All Saints, which they enjoyed by grant from King HENRY VIII. He afterwards procured from Queen ELIZABETH, a royal charter, and a mortmain licence for the land granted by the city. THOMAS SMITH, Mayor of DUBLIN, laid the first stone of the building on the 13th March 1591. The work proceeded vigorously by means of benevolent contributions, and on the 9th of January 1593, it was fit for the reception of stu-

* The dimensions of this fine room are stated by Mr. *Milton* (who has given an inside view of it) to be 269 feet long, 50 broad, and 40 high. It was erected in the year 1732.

dents*. There is an anatomical school in the park adjoining, with very fine preparations in wax: the museum of natural history is so far surpassed by the one newly arranged by General VALLANCEY at the rooms of the DUBLIN Society, that it scarcely deserves notice. The Provost's house, built after a design of the celebrated LORD BURLINGTON, adjoins the University, and adds to the beautiful appearance of this part of the city.

Having mentioned the principal buildings that arrest the stranger's attention during his walk through DUBLIN: I shall say a few words respecting the churches. Of these, SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, and CHRIST CHURCH are the most remarkable for their antiquity, and I may add *only on that account*; for their state is very bad and precarious; and the approach to each of them filthy beyond measure, and through the very worst part of the city †.

The former is said to have been built by JOHN COMYN, Archbishop of Dublin on the site of an older building, and dedicated by him

* Those who wish to satisfy their curiosity more fully respecting this endowment, will find many interesting particulars in *Harris's History of Dublin*.

† Let the reader who wishes to know the dreadful and disgraceful state of this quarter of the city, refer to Mr. Whitelaw's admirable *Essay on the Population of Dublin*, and observations on the state of the poorer parts of the city of Dublin.

in the year 1190 to SAINT PATRICK. HENRY LONDRES afterwards changed its ecclesiastical establishment, which was collegiate in its first constitution, and erected it into a cathedral about the year 1225, uniting it with the priory of the Holy Trinity or CHRIST CHURCH, and reserving to the latter the prerogative of honour. The chapel of the blessed Virgin is said to have been built by FULK DE SAUNDFORD, who in 1271 was buried in it; the steeple was erected by Archbishop MINOT in 1370, who also rebuilt a part of the cathedral which had been destroyed by fire *, and the lofty spire owes its existence to a legacy bequeathed by Doctor STERNE, Bishop of CLOGHER, in 1750.

Such is the ancient account of this Cathedral; a long period, I fear, will not elapse before the traveller will have occasion to witness it in ruins: for so dangerous is its present state, that the whole nave is propped up by poles and scaffolding to prevent its downfall. The interior in point of good architecture has little to

* The following anecdote is related by *Harris* respecting the rebuilding of this church. "After the burning of *St. Patrick's Church*, sixty straggling and idle fellows were taken up, and obliged to assist in repairing the church and building the steeple; who, when the work was over, returned to their old trade of begging, but were banished out of the diocese in 1376 by *Robert de Wikeford*, successor to *Minot*. Their names are inserted in the ancient registry from which this note was taken."

notice or commend. The chapter house, which appears originally to have been one of the transepts, and the choir afford the best specimens.

On the right of the altar is a very curious monument erected to the memory of the **BOYLE** family*: it is divided into several stories, on each

* The history of this nobleman is extremely curious, and can scarcely be equalled either in the English or Irish annals. When he first arrived at *Dublin*, his whole wealth amounted only to 27l. 3s. in money; but by a prudent and upright conduct, he lived, not only to triumph over the calumnious dealings of his rivals, but to enjoy the fruits of his honesty and good judgment. By his wife *Catharine*, daughter to *Sir Geoffrey Fenton*, he had fifteen children, seven sons, and eight daughters: and what is remarkable, three of the five sons who survived him, were made peers before his death. Another was afterwards promoted to the same honours; and his youngest son *Robert Boyle* (so celebrated throughout Europe for his great literary talents) refused the proffered peerage. The same honourable fortune seems to have attended on the female part of his progeny; for seven of his daughters were married to noblemen: and to use the words of his Biographer, "I may venture to affirm, that the founder of no family in England, was ever so far favoured by Providence, as to see so many of his children settled in the world, and disposed of after so honourable a manner."

But I must not omit an anecdote relating to this sumptuous monument. The *Earl of Cork* having purchased from the Dean and Chapter of *St. Patrick's*, sufficient ground to build a vault for his family, erected this monument over it: for which he was called in question, having placed it in the space where the high altar anciently stood, directly facing the door of the choir. Tho

of which there are figures either recumbent or kneeling, and is the loftiest monument I ever saw, as it rises nearly to the top of the cieling. On the opposite side, is the tomb of LORD RANELAGH. The figures on each monument are painted. Besides the above, there are several brasses with sculptures and inscriptions; a tablet to the memory of SIR HENRY WALLOP 1599, founder of the PORTSMOUTH family in HAMPSHIRE, and another to the memory of the celebrated DEAN SWIFT, bearing this inscription:

HIC DEPOSITUM EST CORPUS JONATHAN SWIFT S. T. D. HUIUS ECLESIE CATHEDRALIS DECANI, UBI SÆVA INDIGNATIO ULTERIUS COR LACERARE NEQUIT. ABI VIATOR! ET IMITARE, SI POTERIS, STRENUUM PRO VIRILI LIBERTATIS VINDICATOREM. OBIIT. 19 DIE MENSIS OCTOBRIS A D 1745. ANNO ÆTATIS 78.

Above this tablet is a spirited bust of the Dean, the gift of the celebrated GEORGE FAULKNER.

matter was referred to the Primate and Archbishop of *Dublin*, who, by their letters to the King, made a certificate concerning the propriety of its situation. The King however ordered a commission to be held by the Lord Deputy and other dignified ecclesiastics to inquire into the real situation of this tomb, and when satisfied that it had been erected on the site of the high altar, the King ordered it to be removed to the southside of the altar, in which situation it now remains.

CHRIST CHURCH or the Priory of the Holy Trinity—ARCHDALE in his *Monasticon* has recorded many valuable particulars respecting this building. He attributes the foundation of it to SITRIC the son of AULIF the DANISH PRINCE OF DUBLIN in the year 1038, who gave to DONAT the first Bishop of that See, a place, whereon to erect a church to the blessed Trinity. Several of the Norman chieftains who came into IRELAND with King HENRY the Second enlarged this church by adding chapels and other improvements. Amongst these was RICHARD STRONGBOW, EARL OF PEMBROKE, who according to tradition lies buried here. The figure of a cross legged knight is shewn as his effigy; and above it is this explanatory inscription engraven on a tablet.

THIS AVNCIENT MONVMENT OF RYCHARD STRANGBOWE CALLED COMES STRANGVLENSIS LORD OF CHEPSTO AND OGNV THE FYRST AND PRYNCIPALL INVADER OF IRELAND 1169 QUI OBIT 1177. THE MONVMENT WAS BROKEN BY THE FALL OF THE ROFF AND BODYE OF CHRISTES CHURCHE IN ANNO 1562. AND SET VP AGAYNE AT THE CHARGYS OF THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR HENRI SYDNEY KNIGHT OF THE NOBLE ORDER L. PRESIDENT OF WALES L. DEPVTY OF IRELAND. 1570.

ARCHDALE in his *Monasticon* (page 133,) says “that in 1167. RICHARD STRONGBOW, EARL OF PEMBROKE granted to the Abbey of

the Virgin Mary at DUBLIN certain lands, &c." and directed that his body should be buried in this abbey, where his brother THOMAS had taken the habit of the order. He afterwards (page 150) adds " that in 1176 the same Earl granted lands to find lights for CHRIST'S CHURCH ; that he died of a cancerous sore in his leg, and was interred there, within sight of the Holy Cross*." On the left of the high altar is a costly tomb in marble, erected to the me-

*The following passage in *Leland's Itinerary*, vol. iv. p. 80. has caused some doubt about the place of interment of this illustrious chieftain ; *Hic jacet Ricus Strongbow filius Gilberti comitis de Pembroke* ; which he states (amongst others) as written on the walls of the chapter house in the cloysters of Gloucester Cathedral ; but the testimony of *Giraldus de Barri* who accompanied Prince John to Ireland in 1185, and wrote his account of that country in the year 1187, (only ten years after the death of *Earl Richard*,) will settle this point in the most satisfactory manner. In chapter 14 book 11 of his *Hibernia expugnata*, he says "*Corpus Comitis, Dublinæ in ecclesiâ Sanctæ Trinitatis in ipso reterendæ Crucis prospectu, procurante Laurentio sedis ejusdem Archiprasule, celebratis solemniter exequiis, est cumulatam.*"

Though the generality of authors seem to think that *Strongbow* was buried in Christ's Church ; still, I think, some doubt may be entertained if this effigy has been rightly attributed to him. The knight bears on his shield the following arms, viz. *Argent, on a chief azure, three crosses crosslet's fitchèe of the field.* On referring to *Enderbie*, and also to an ancient manuscript by *George Owen*, I find that the arms of this chieftain were, *Or, three Chevrons Gules, a crescent for difference.* How then can this be the effigy of *Strongbow* ?

mony of ROBERT EARL OF KILDARE, 1743, and executed by CHEERE the Sculptor. He is represented in a recumbent attitude ; at his feet stands his son, the late DUKE OF LEINSTER ; and at his head stands his widow and daughter Lady HILLSBOROUGH. The sculpture has a considerable degree of merit ; but the general good effect of the group is much injured by the *costume* in which the figures are habited*. On the opposite side, is another tomb, where the figures are well executed in small life : They commemorate *Francis Agard* 1577. and *Lady Cecilia Harrington* his daughter and coheir, wife of *Sir Henry Harrington* 1584. This is the same personage whose name I found inscribed on a curious tablet in BEAUMARIS Church, ANGLESEA, and which I have mentioned in my notes on GIRALDUS (Vol. II. page 118.) but at the publication of that work, I did not know the place of his interment. He was Secretary to SIR HENRY SIDNEY, Lord Justice of IRELAND, and his good character is thus recorded by the Historian HOLLINSHED. " He made choice of two worthy counsellors, whom for their faith-

* This nobleman who died in 1743, ordered " that there do attend my funeral but a few of my servants, and that my body be kept unburied for as many days after my decease as it can, without art or cutting open." The inscription to his memory is transcribed in *Lodge's Peerage*, Vol. i. p. 111.

fulness in counsel for the state, good will and friendship towards him, and for their integrity and sincerity every way, he entirely loved and assuredly trusted; one of these was Master FRANCIS AGARD, whom he commonly called his “*Fidus Achates*.” This church contains other less important tombs, amongst which that of Doctor WOODWARD organist, has the singularity of a *musical* epitaph. In point of antiquity, CHRIST’S CHURCH bears a decided superiority over SAINT PATRICK’S, and presents several specimens of Saxon architecture. The northern front has an ornamented Saxon portal: the transepts are chiefly of the same Order, though we may trace an early introduction of the pointed arch, but still retaining its Saxon decorations; of which we see two good examples in the aisle leading from the transept on the right of the choir. The choir presents a sad medley of Gothic and Italian architecture combined in the most unnatural manner. The annals of this Priory have been preserved by ARCHDALE in his *Monasticon* from the year 1170 to 1585.

These are the principal buildings that will attract the attention of the stranger who visits DUBLIN: but there are others, which, though not equal in grandeur, may deserve the epithet of handsome: amongst them may be named the LYING IN HOSPITAL, BLUE COAT HOSPITAL,

the ROTUNDO, CHURCH OF SAINT CATHARINE, the THOLSEL, and the Rooms of the DUBLIN Society in the city: and KILMAINHAM HOSPITAL in the suburbs, and ROYAL INFIRMARY in the PHŒNIX Park. Amongst the houses of the nobility, the most remarkable those of the LEINSTER, CHARLEMONT, and POWERSCOURT families*.

I have before remarked that the streets and squares, though planned upon a grand and extensive scale, want neatness and symmetry to render them striking to the eye. SACKVILLE STREET and SAINT STEPHEN'S GREEN are evident proofs of my assertions. It is not sufficient that a street is wide, or that a square encloses a spacious area†; a certain regularity

* To those who wish to have correct and well chosen views of all the principal buildings at *Dublin*, I strongly recommend the work of *Mr. James Malton*.

† *St. Stephen's Green* is esteemed the largest square in *Europe*, and its circumference is little short of an English mile: a broad gravel walk, separated from the street by a low wall, and from the green by a dirty and stinking ditch, encircles the whole area, which is shaded by trees. This spacious green presents the level surface of a meadow, broken only by an equestrian statue of *King George the Second* in the centre. I am rather surprised that the spirit of taste and improvement so highly conspicuous in many parts of *Dublin* should not have been extended to this fine green; a spot so well calculated for public walks, and even in its present uncouth state, and with all its *desagrémens*, so much resorted to by the public.

and grandeur in the surrounding houses is absolutely necessary to render them striking; the good effects of symmetry are visible in many of the new squares in LONDON, and still more so at BATH.

SUNDAY 29TH JUNE. I left DUBLIN in the morning; passed through the PHŒNIX Park*; a wide and handsome straight road with trees on its sides; see the Vice Regal Lodge on the right, a good modern house, with wings added by the late Lieutenant LORD HARDWICKE; there are several smaller lodges within the Park. At the further extremity is the representation of a PHŒNIX at the top of a large Corinthian pillar, erected during the Lieutenancy of the EARL OF CHESTERFIELD. Passed through the village of CASTLE KNOCK†; AB-

* This park (which is about seven miles in circumference) was a part of the extensive possessions attached to *Kilmainham*, where *Richard Strongbow* had founded a priory for Knights Templars. The general dissolution of this military establishment took place in *France* as well as in *England* about the year 1312. The example of *Philip King* of *France* was followed by our *Edward the Second*, each of whom, not without reason, viewed with a jealous eye the encreasing power of this order, who from the period of their first establishment in 1118, had gained possession of sixteen thousand lordships. *Archdale Monasticon*, p. 228.

† This word often occurs in *Ireland*, a corruption from *knokán*; or *knoikin*, a hill. *Lhuyd Archaeologia*.

BOTSTOWN * on the right, the seat of Mr. FAULKNER. Cross the Royal Canal; and see at a short distance on the right the ruined Church of MALLAHIDERT. Village of CLO-NEE; on the left DUNBOYNE, and NORMAN'S GROVE on the right. Miserable cottages made of mud and thatched; many of them left in ruins since the rebellion in 1798: roads excellent and flat; lands cultivated with corn, potatoes, and pastures, but slovenly farming. Changed horses at the Black Bull, a single house, which gave us no very favourable specimen of the Irish Inns. One of the parlour windows still bears the mark of a bullet shot into the room during the rebellion. From the Black Bull Inn. to TRIM, MILES XII. road flat and excellent; arable fields; great flocks of turkeys and other poultry kept by the peasants. Saw written on several houses the words *Good dry Lodgings*; by which, *dry* is not meant in contradistinction to *wet* or *damp*, but implies lodgings *without board*, as the same word is applied in a higher sense to a *ball without a supper*. Miserable hovels still continue to hurt the feelings of the compassionate traveller.

* The traveller in *Ireland*, when he sees the word *town* post-fixed to the name of any place, must not expect to find a town or village in its *literal* sense: as that word is very frequently attached to the country seats of individuals.

See on the right the ruins of a square fort, with circular turrets at the angles, called SCURLACK'S-TOWN Castle—cross the River BOYNE, a silent stream, full of weeds and rushes. Immediately adjoining the bridge on the right are the ruins of an abbey; and a short distance to the left are those of NEWTOWN Priory *. TRIM is the County town of MEATH where the assizes are held, and where large additions are now making to the Gaol. Inn Reilly Arms; good †.

From TRIM to MITCHELSTOWN, MILES XI. road good as before; country better, and more varied with trees, hedges and corn fields. CLIFTON LODGE on the left belonging to Lord DARNLEY, who has considerable property in this neighbourhood. ATHBOY, a tolerable town, large inn nearly completed, post horses kept. See on the right St. LUCY, the seat of SIR BENJAMIN CHAPMAN, who keeps in hand a farm of nearly six thousand Irish acres. On the left BALLINLOUGH, a well wooded seat of SIR HUGH O'REILLY. From hence a road completely shaded with trees, led me to the seat of my friend ROBERT STEARNE TIGHE, Esq. at

* As this neighbourhood abounds so much in military as well as monastick remains, I shall defer giving any account of them, until I find leisure to examine them more minutely.

† I am not able as yet to rate the good or bad qualities of an Irish inn; so different an appearance do they present in every respect to those of *England*.

MITCHELSTOWN, passing by the grounds of Mr. WOOD at ROSMEAD. The general appearance of this district is much enlivened by numerous gentlemen's seats, and the plantations attached to them.

In the neighbourhood of MITCHELSTOWN; there are several objects worthy of notice: CASTLE TOWN DELVIN *, the ancient seat of the Earls of WESTMEATH has a part of its baronial castle standing; and near it one of those raised earthen works, which the Irish writers call *raths*† and attribute to the DANES.

FORE and the adjoining Lake called LOUGH LENE occupied a whole morning. Pass the ruined Church of CLONARNY on the right, and that of ARCHERSTOWN on the left, near the newly made residence of Mr. BATTERSBY. See

* *Delvin*, in the barony from it named, a large oblong square castle, high raised, having at each corner a large round tower, which equalleth, if not surmounteth the castle, a structure speaking ancient magnificence. It is now wholly waste without roof or inhabitants. It giveth the title of a Lord Baron to the Right Hon. *Richard Nugent, Earl of Westmeath*, of an ancient illustrious family descended from Baron *Jones*, who (without the stile of lord) was of the first English conquerors and seated here. *Vallaucy Collectanea Hibernica*, Vol. i. p. 62.

* *Raad* in the Danish language signifies a council: See *Wolff's Dictionary*: and by *Lhuyd* in his *Irish-English Dictionary* is interpreted a village, a prince's seat, also an artificial mount or barrow.

at a distance on the left the seat of Mr. SMITH, M. P. for the county*.

Some interesting records have been preserved respecting FORE by SIR HENRY PIERS, and Mr. ARCHDALE. The former wrote a description of the County of WESTMEATH, which is published in the first volume of *Vallancey's Collectanea de rebus Hibernicis*, and contains the following description of FORE or FOURE.

“ FOURE, an ancient corporation, sending two members to parliament, is seated on the north side of the hill, which interposeth between it and LOUGH LENE. This town is said to have been anciently a town or university of literature, and its name, signifying in the Irish language, the *town of books*, and LOUGH LENE, the *lake of learning*, together with an island in it bearing the like name, which is said to have been the retiring place of the learned, who taught here, may seem to give countenance to this old tradition. But if this town were not a mart of *learning*, surely it was of *devotion*, there being in it no less than the ruins of three parish churches, more by two than the greatest and best town of our county hath,

*Between *Archerstown* and *Fore*, I observed on the left side of the road a *tumulus* which, on examination, appeared to be *sepulchral*: it was surrounded by a fosse, but not so neatly executed as those on our Downs in *Wiltshire*.

one monastery, one church or cell of an Anchorite, the sole of the religious of this kind in Ireland. This religious person at his entry maketh a vow never to go out of his doors all his life after, and accordingly here he remains pent up all his days: every day he saith mass in his chapel, which also is part of, nay almost all his dwelling house, for there is no more house, but a very small castle, wherein a tall man can hardly stretch himself at length, if he laid down on the floor; nor is there any passage into the castle, but through the chapel. He hath servants that attend him at his call in an outhouse, but none lyeth within the church but himself. He is said by the natives, who hold him in great veneration for his sanctity, every day to dig or rather scrape (for he useth no other tools but his nails) a portion of his grave; being esteemed of so great holiness, as if purity and sanctity were entailed on his cell, he is constantly visited by those of the Romish religion, who aim at being esteemed more devout than the ordinary amongst them: every visitant at his departure leaveth his offering, or (as they phrase it) devotion on his altar; but he relieth not on this only for a maintenance, but has those to bring him in their devotion, whose devotions are not so fervent as to invite them to do the office in person; these are called

his proctors, who range all the countries in Ireland to beg for him, whom they call "*The Holy Man in the Stone*." Corn, eggs, geese, turkeys, hens, sheep, money, and what not; nothing comes amiss, and no where do they fail altogether, but something is had, insomuch that if his proctors deal honestly, nay if they return him but a tenth part of what is given him, he may doubtless fare as well as any priest of them all. The only recreation this poor prisoner is capable of, is to walk on his terras built over the cell wherein he lies, if he may be said to walk, who cannot in one line stretch forth his legs four times." An inscription still existing in a ruined chapel under the hill bears testimony that a hermit resided there so late as the year 1616.

*"En égo Patricius Beglê, sacræ incola eremi
Hoc lapidum tumulo condor, humorque cavo
Rupe sub aerâ monumento, et sede sacratâ,
Intemerato adyto, tum sine labe domo.
Quisquis is est ergo qui cernet busta, viator,
Dicat eremicolæ ! spiritus astra petat !"**

* On one side of the inscription, a cross and two figures are delineated, and on the other side that of the Hermit, to which the word *busta* in the épitaph probably alludes. This chapel was the burial place of the *Westmeath* family, to whom there is a monumental tablet bearing date 1680.

Besides the ruins of these parish churches, city walls and gateways, there is the shell of a spacious monastery situated in the vale below; and as SIR H. PIERS observes, "*built in a bog, but founded on a firm spot of ground.*" Mr. ARCHDALE in his *Monasticon*, p. 711, says, "at FORE we find a Priory of Canons Regular, which was built by ST. FECHIN about the year 630. He died of the plague A.D. 665, after having governed 3000 monks in this abbey." By the annals of this monastery, which the said author has continued to the year 1614, we learn that in 1209, WALTER DE LACIE refounded this abbey, under the invocation of ST. TAURIN and ST. FECHIN, for monks of the order of ST. BENEDICT, whom he brought for that purpose from the Abbey of ST. TAURIN in EVEREUX, NORMANDY, and made this a cell to that abbey, from which period this house has been generally called the PRIORY OF ST. FECHIN and ST. TAURIN.

This monastery presents a large pile of simple and unornamented masonry: the Chapel is still in a tolerable state of preservation, and has three narrow pointed windows. The valley in which this abbey is placed must in the time of its prosperity have been a delightful retreat; the outline is still good, and nothing is wanting but wood to render it an attractive spot in

modern days; the approach to it from the east was protected by a strong fort, of which the earthen mounds only remain. Religion still maintains her rites at FORE, though forsaken by its cloystered inhabitants; for one of the churchyards is thickly crowded with tombstones, though the church is in ruins*.

LOUGH LENE lies at a short distance from FORE. It is a large piece of water, with three wooded islands upon it. It produces good trout and pike; its banks are flat and cultivated. On the north side of the lake, its waters penetrate under the rock, and reappear on the opposite side of the hill near FORE, where they turn a mill. At no great distance from this lake, and towards the south, is a raised earthen work, called vulgarly "THE FORT OF TURGESIUS." This chieftain is mentioned by many historians as the conqueror of a *large* district, and by GIRALDUS DE BARRI as of the *whole* of IRELAND. He says in his *Topographia Hi-*

* I have already had occasion during my short progress, to remark several of these ruined churches with crowded cemeteries; and I am informed that the great frequency of them through *Ireland*, proceeds from the consolidation of parishes at a period when the Catholic preponderated over the Protestant religion. It seems that the latter now begins to gain ground, as application has been made for the restoration of many of these dilapidated churches, and some have already been rebuilt.

berniæ "In hujus verò Felmidii Regis (Feidlime) tempore, Norwagienses in magnâ classe Hibernica littora, anno octingentesimo trigesimo octavo, appulerunt, &c. Horum dux Turgesius vocatus; multis variisque conflictibus et bellis atrocibus totam sibi insulam in brevi subjugavit, et peragratis totius regni finibus totam undique terram, locis idoneis incastellavit. Unde et fossata infinita, alta nimis, rotunda quoque ac pleraque triplicia. Castella etiam murata, et adhuc integra, vacua tamen et deserta, ex reliquiis illis, et antiquitatis vestigiis hic usque in hodiernum multa reperies. Hibernicus enim populus castella non curat. Silvis namque pro castris; paludibus utitur pro fossatis: Turgesius itaque regnum Hibernicum aliquandiu pacificè rexit, donec puellarum dolo delusus interiit †."*

But the Historian LELAND places the invasion of IRELAND by TURGESIUS in the year 815, and not according to GIRALDUS in 838. By the assistance of the Danes of Ireland who flocked to his standard, he conquered the natives, and was proclaimed Monarch of the Kingdom. But the Irish spirit at length revived;

* Feidlime, or Feidlimidius, was King of the province of Munster, not of all Ireland.

† This extract from Giraldus is very important, as it not only gives an account of the *Norwegian* whose name this fort still bears; but throws some light on the earthen works with which *Ireland* abounds; but perhaps he may err in attributing so many of these works to *Turgesius*.

and MELACHLIN Prince of MEATH, in a time of apparent peace, seized the usurper.

The circumstances attending this adventure have been mentioned by all the Irish writers, and are thus related by GIRALDUS. "The Norwegian chieftain had conceived a violent passion for the daughter of the KING OF MEATH, who knowing the ferocious disposition of the tyrant, did not dare to irritate him by a denial. He therefore apparently acceded to his proposal, and promised to send his daughter attended by fifteen young damsels to a certain island in the province of MEATH*, at an appointed time. In the mean time MELACHLIN selects fifteen of the most resolute and beautiful youths, without beards, orders them to be habited like young women, and to carry each of them a sword concealed under their garments. Thus accoutred, they proceed to the place of meeting, where they find the amorous chieftain and his youthful comrades, eager to receive the Princess and her supposed females: but no sooner had TURGESIUS transgressed the bounds of decorum, than the young men drew forth their secret weapons, and throwing off the disguise they had assumed, put the Norwe-

* There is a lake in the western district of the County of Westmeath named *Loch Iron*, which may probably have been the scene of this action, but having never seen it, I cannot say if it has any island on it.

gian and his companions to death : thus saving the honour of the royal father and of his daughter, and delivering their country from the hands of a most oppressive tyrant*.”

“ *Cum igitur ad tempestate filiam Regis Medensis Turgesius amasset ; Rex ille virus sub pectore versans, filiam suam ipsi concedens, ad insulam quandam Mediæ, in stagno scilicet Lochyreno, illam cum quindecim puellis egregiis ei missurum se spopondit. Quibus et Turgesius gavisus cum totidem nobilioribus gentis suæ, statuto die et loco obviam venit ; et invenit, et inveniens in insulâ quindecim adolescentes imberbes animosos, et ad hoc electos sub habitu puellari dolum pallientes, cultellis quos occultè secum attulerant, statim inter amplexus Turgesius cum suis occubuit.*”

Giraldus Topog. Hib. p. 749.

FROM MITCHELSTOWN TO TULLA-
MORE, NENAGH, KILLALOE, LIME-
RICK, ADAIR, TARBERT, TRALEE,
ARDFERT AND KILLARNEY.

FRIDAY 4TH JULY.—From MITCHELSTOWN to MULLINGAR XII MILES: road good, country stoney and flat, lands chiefly pasture. See MARTINSTOWN Castle in a field to the left; and the ruins of another fort on the right, with a small lake. See on the left REYNELLA, the seat of Mr. REYNELL, and afterwards on the right KILLYNAN, another seat of the same family. Observe a *tumulus* on the left. COOKESBOROUGH the seat of Mr. COOKE; a line of most miserable hovels, with smoke issuing from a hole in the thatched roof: two lakes on the right. This tract of country bears but a ragged appearance, from the general want of trees, hedge-rows, and the slovenly state of its cultivation. A large fair now holding at MULLINGAR, which a traveller would wish to avoid as much in IRELAND as in WALES. The post-horses met us at the entrance to the town,

where the hostler harnessed the *riding* horse on the *off-side*, and did not perceive his mistake till asked by us “ If that was the custom of his country ? ”

FROM MULLINGAR TO KILBEGGAN XII MILES. Road good, and mostly flat. See crowds of females, and many of them otherwise well drest, flocking barefooted (*more Cambrico*) to the fair: and near the town a large group performing ablutions in a pond, preparatory to putting on their stockings. A circular earthen work adjoining the road on the right; also a large lake called LOUGH ENNEL in the same direction. Many gentlemen's seats* decorate its eastern banks, which are well wooded, and more abrupt than those on the opposite

* Mr. *Rochfort's*, Lord *Belvedere's*, &c. In speaking of the latter, Mr. *Young* in his admirable *Tour through Ireland*, says, “ The house is perched on the crown of a beautiful little hill, half surrounded with others, variegated and melting into one another. It is a most singular place; spreads to the eye a beautiful lawn of undulating ground, margined with wood; single trees are scattered in some places, and clumps in others; the effect so pleasing, that were there nothing further, the place would be beautiful; but the rest of the canvas is admirably filled. *Lough Ennel*, many miles in length, and two or three broad, flows beneath the windows. It is spotted with islets; a promontory of rock, fringed with trees, starts into it, and the whole is bounded by distant hills. Greater and more magnificent scenes are often met with, but no where a more beautiful or a more singular one.”

side. A church in ruins on the right, cemetery crowded with monumental memorials ; another in the same line and in the same state ; a lodge placed on the *opposite* side of the road to the entrance gate ; a peculiarity, I am told, very common in IRELAND : ornament and cultivation cease ; a mere spirt : dreary country returns, lands rather more cultivated with corn ; a large bog ; cross the River BRUSNA flowing out of LOUGH ENNEL ; several mills in a vale on the left ; and a ruined castle on the right.

KILBEGGAN is a small town situated on the River BRUSNA. Post horses kept, but none at home. Landlord's name is CUFFE, who was knighted in a frolic by Lord TOWNSHEND during his Lieutenancy ; and his wife still prides herself in her titled honours. The inn though kept by a Knight and his Lady, bears but a melancholy appearance. Continued our journey with the same post horses ; a raised causeway over a bog, with deep ditches on each side ; a narrow ridge of hill ; corn fields increase ; see distant hills on the right : another bottom and ascent ; road becomes worse and wants mending. Leave the County of WESTMEATH, and enter the KING'S COUNTY. The face of the country improves on approaching TULLAMORE, where I found a good Inn and accommodations at DOHERTY's, (the CHARLEVILLE ARMS) near the bridge.

This town was burnt down a few years ago, but is reviving very rapidly, and bears a busy and flourishing aspect: it is intersected by a canal leading from DUBLIN to the Port on the SHANNON, on which a covered boat, like the *coche d'eau* in Holland and Flanders, is fitted up for the convenience of travellers. At a short distance from the town, and on the banks of this canal is a small square fort in good preservation.

SATURDAY 5 JULY. From TULLAMORE, through FRANKFORD, to BIRR XIX MILES. Two miles from TULLAMORE is the seat of Lord CHARLEVILLE adjoining the turnpike road, where a handsome castellated mansion is now erecting under the superintendence of JOHNSON the architect. The plan of this building aims at accommodating the most prominent features of a baronial castle to the conveniences of a modern habitation: the most objectionable part is the large tower which appears to issue from the centre of the building; and which at an immense height is perforated by four large arches; and thus its massive solidity and grandeur are completely destroyed. The whole is built with fine grey stone, and seems very well executed. The adjoining park is well wooded, but flat. Returning to my carriage, I continued my route; open corn fields; country ragged and stony. See a gentleman's seat on

the left ; a roofless chapel on the right ; a long tract of dreary country ; road rough in parts ; a large extent of bog on the right. Country improves on approaching to FRANKFORD, a small town with an inn, and a scanty supply of post horses. Here I baited mine. There is nothing at this place worthy of the stranger's attention. The cultivation is good near the town, but it soon ceases. Turf cars busily employed in bringing home food for the winter's fires. A bog on each side of the road ; a gentleman's seat, and better cultivation occasionally enliven the face of the country ; a nursery garden of firs and forest trees on the right : Would that they were more numerous, and that they found customers ! IRELAND would than regain the sylvan honours it has lost for so many centuries, and no longer present so black and barren an aspect*.

BIRR, formerly called PARSONSTOWN, is situated on the River BIRR. It is a large, new well built town with straight streets ; the principal of which is terminated by DUKE'S SQUARE, so called from a statue of the DUKE OF CUMBERLAND, by CHEERE, erected on a handsome and lofty column. It is placed disadvantage-

* The numerous and large pieces of timber found in the bogs throughout *Ireland*, prove how well wooded the country must have been in ancient times.

ously within a circular inclosure, and moated by a stream of water. At the other end of the town is a castellated mansion of the PARSONS family, built (as I was informed) after the designs of JOHNSON the architect. At BIRR, is a good inn, (KING'S ARMS, DOOLY*) where I snacked*.

Leaving BIRR, I shortly entered the county of TIPPERARY, passing through a village with mills, and a small castle; another ruined fort on the left; corn lands; a castle in ruins on the right; a line of road as straight as if it had been planned by a Roman engineer; an extensive plain, with distant hills; bog; a slight ascent; a large bog on the right; a church rebuilt, with the ruins of the more ancient one, annexed. Corn, pastures, and bog; road rough in parts; a gentleman's seat on the right; more wood; another seat on the right; the country improves; plain bounded by some high hills.

NENAGH is a large town, regularly built; has the remains of a castle, with a round tower of strong masonry. I found good accommodations at the NEW INN, (FITZ-PATRICK.) CATTRELL'S NEW INN has the advantage as to *exterior* appearance: but some friends of mine, who followed me, complained bitterly of its *interior*.

* *Snack* is in Ireland synonymous, with *lunch* in England.

SUNDAY 6 JULY. FROM NENAGH TO KILLALOE XII MILES; road good, but hilly. See on the left a raised earthen work. A gentleman's seat, with a fine wood on the right. The same kind of country continues; pastures, corn, potatoes, and bog. Leaving the direct road to LIMERICK, I turned off to the right about three miles from KILLALOE, when the country becomes more hilly, with some steep ascents and descents: here I used the drag chain for the first time; as the horses had no breeching. See the River SHANNON winding through a vale on the left, with a canal on its side.

Enter KILLALOE over a long bridge of 18 arches* across the SHANNON, which here rolls rapidly over an irregular bed of rock. The ascent into the town is rather steep. The Cathedral church which is situated at the bottom of the hill near the river, deserves the traveller's attention. It has lately been fitted up in a modern style, and its antiquities may be confined to its southern portal, and its font. The former presents a most curious and well sculptured specimen of rich Saxon architecture, of a grotesque and irregular design. This, though evidently a *doorway*, has been vulgarly styled a *monument*,

* The number of arches was formerly more considerable. Some of them have been destroyed by the canal that has been cut upon the banks of the river.

and attributed to one of the Kings of MUNSTER. The font (now overturned) is decorated with arabesque ornaments in *relievo*. On the north side of the cathedral is a small oratory or chapel of a date far prior to the cathedral; and probably the original sanctuary of the holy man who founded the abbey*. Its roof is very deep, and made entirely of stone; it has a belfry, and two doorways to the east and west. The scenery about KILLALOE is rather picturesque, and derives much of its beauty from the rapid and meandering course of the SHANNON, which affords excellent sport to the salmon fisherman. To the north west of KILLALOE the river forms a spacious lake called LOUGH DERG, in which are several islands: on one of which, called INISKELTAIR, are the ruins of seven small churches, and a fine round tower. The shores also of this lake afford some fine views, particularly near DERRY, the seat of Mr. HEAD: but unfortunately, the town of

* *Killaloe*, the seat of a bishop, and situated on the western banks of the River *Shannon*, near the noted cataract. Saint *Molualobhair*, the grandson of *Eocha Baildearg*, King of *North Munster*, founded an abbey here about the beginning of the sixth century. He was succeeded by his disciple Saint *Flannan*, who about the year 639, was consecrated bishop of the place: from this time we hear no more of it as an abbey. *Killaloe* was anciently the resort of many pilgrims. *Archdale*, p. 52.

KILLALOE is so badly provided with the necessary accommodations for a traveller, that the adjacent beauties must frequently be overlooked.

From KILLALOE to LIMERICK XIII MILES. Road good, but hilly. Cross the SHANNON at O'BRIEN's bridge; fourteen arches; banks of the river flat; a village with one wide street, much resorted to for its medicinal spring. Gentlemen's seats, and habitations begin to thicken, and assume a whiter and neater appearance; but the bog reappears. Pass close to MOUNT SHANNON, the seat of the late Lord Chancellor FITZGIBBON, created Lord CLARE. See two ruined castles in the vale on the right*. I found excellent accommodations at SWINBURN'S LIMERICK HOTEL, in BRUNSWICK STREET.

MONDAY 7 JULY. The accounts I had heard of KILMALLOCK, induced me to make an excursion thither. It is situated sixteen miles from LIMERICK, on the great road to CORK. See on the left a small castle; at Six-mile Bridge, a gentleman's seat. On the left also is a pretty lake with steep and irregular banks. Enter the village of

* From an ignorance of the country, I did not take the pleasantest road from *Killaloe* to *Limerick*: I ought to have made a trifling *detour* by *Castleconnel*, where I am told, the scenery is picturesque.

BRUFF through a most miserable street of thatched hovels; an indifferent inn, with post horses. See a ruined castle and church on the left. The same kind of uninteresting country still continues; the soil evidently richer, but the inhabitants more wretched in appearance than any I have yet seen; *such* habitations, teeming with a numerous population of children, pigs, and poultry, present a truly deplorable and affecting sight to every man of feeling and humanity.

The first view of this place is singularly striking: it has the appearance of a town suddenly deserted and left in ruins. I entered it by the side of a lofty turretted gateway, leading into the principal street, which is formed on each side by a line of houses excellently well built of stone; a certain uniformity prevails in the style of architecture, and in a great measure ascertains their date*. Many of these houses have been perfectly gutted, and have only the outward shell of wall remaining. This town was fortified with a strong wall, and (as I was informed) had five gates, of which two only now remain: the one on the road to LIMERICK, which I have before mentioned; called

* They certainly cannot boast an *earlier* date than the reign of King *Henry VIII*: but I rather think them of the time of Queen *Elizabeth*.

ST. JOHN'S GATE; the other leading towards CHARLEVILLE. The parish church appears to have stood within the precinct of the walls. The greater part of the ancient edifice is in ruins, the choir only being at present appropriated to the offices of religion. The architecture is of the *Pointed Order*; and both materials and workmanship are good. In the south transept is a monument of the COPPINGER family, on which a male and female figure are rudely sculptured. The front of this church is rendered picturesque by a round tower annexed to it, and which evidently appears to be of a much more ancient date than the adjoining building. ARCHDALE says "that an abbey was founded here by ST. MOCHEALLOG, who died between the years 639 and 656, and that this is now the parish church." I am inclined therefore to think that in ancient times, prior to the foundation of this abbey, there was an oratory or chapel dedicated to the Saint, to which this round tower appertained. On the N.E. side of the town, and separated from it by the River MAIG, are the remains of a large abbey. The architecture of this building is *pointed*, and surpasses in decoration and good sculpture any I have yet seen in IRELAND, but does not appear to be older than the reign of King EDWARD the Third. The east window is in a chaste and elegant style, and there are many

parts of the building that merit notice, and furnish good subjects for the pencil in a variety of points of view ; a great part of the cloysters still remain. Facing the east window is an altar tomb to the memory of the Geraldines, bearing this inscription, which appears never to have been completed.

I. H. S. HIC TVMVLVS ERECTVS FVIT IN MEMORIAM ILLIVS STEMMATIS GERALDINORVM QVI VVLGO VOCANTVR EQVITES ALBI. IOHANNES CVM FILIO SVO EDMVNDO ET MAVRICIO FILIO PRÆFATI EDMVNDI ET MVLTII ALII EIVSDEM FAMILIÆ HIC TVMVLANTVR. PREFATVS

ARCHDALE, in speaking of this abbey, says “ that the friars of the order of St. Dominick seated themselves here A.D. 1291 : and the tradition of the place informs us, that the founder of this priory was GILBERT, the second son of JOHN of CALLEN, Lord OFFALEY.

The historian and antiquary have cause to regret, that so little certain information can be gained respecting the foundation of this ancient town. It appears to have been a place of great strength, and to have made a conspicuous figure in the military history of IRELAND. In 1571 it was burnt by the Earl of DESMOND : and in 1598 was invested by a nephew of the said Earl, but relieved by the Earl of ORMOND. During the troubles of 1642 it was seized by the Irish, headed by Lord MOUNTGAR-

RETT: and in May 1643 it was besieged by Lord INCHIUIN with an army of 700 men. It was afterwards burned and dismantled by CROMWELL's army. King EDWARD the SIXTH granted a charter to KILMALLOCK, and Queen ELIZABETH another, bearing date April 24, 1584. This charter grants several tolls and customs; empowers the burgesses to elect a Sovereign; to hold courts of record; to issue actions for debt not exceeding twenty pounds; to levy money for keeping the fortifications in repair; to grant licences for making spirituous liquors: it orders, that no burgess shall be impanelled at the assizes, except where the crown is a party: the Sovereign and burgesses are not to be obliged to take up arms, and on account of their good services in resisting that arch-traitor GARRETT FITZ GARRETT, Earl of DESMOND, they shall enjoy all the liberties and free customs, murage, pontage, lastage, in as ample a manner as KILKENNY or CLONMELL. It also grants a fair to continue for five days; to commence on the Saturday before Whitsuntide; and the burgesses are to be free from all taxes except those assessed by parliament.

From the Life of Sir JOHN PERROT (published in 1728) I learn the following particulars relating to this place. The Earl of DESMOND had by his wars and rebellion desolated the province

of MUNSTER, and the chief actor in these cruel desolations was his Seneschal or Lieutenant James FITZ-MAURICE ; against whom, and the the rest of his accomplices, Sir John PERROT was sent into IRELAND, and appointed Lord President of MUNSTER ; and he landed at WATERFORD the first of March, 1572, being ST. DAVID'S Day. And within three days of his landing, the Rebel FITZ-MAURICE burned the town of KILMALLOCK, hanged its Sovereign, and others of the townsmen (as many as he could take) at the High Cross in the market-place, and carried all the plate and wealth of the town with him. Upon which Sir John PERROT, having hastened to DUBLIN to take his oath of the Lord Deputy Sir Henry SIDNEY, returned with all possible dispatch, and as many forces as he could collect, to KILMALLOCK, the late wasted town, where he lodged himself in a house half burned, and issued a proclamation "that as many of the townsmen as fled, and were living after the said slaughter, should return home ; which they did accordingly, and began to build their gates, to repair the town walls, and to reedify their houses. FITZ-MAURICE still continued to be very troublesome ; and the President no less eager in endeavouring to subdue or take him. His Biographer recounts many curious anecdotes of him ; of the fatigues

he underwent in pursuit of the rebel, of the challenges he received from FITZ-MAURICE either to fight him with a select detachment of his soldiers, or in single combat (both of which were gallantly accepted by the President, and as cowardly refused by the rebel, when the *crisis* arrived.) Upon which Sir John PERROT, (to use his own words) vowed, without delay, "*to hunt the fox out of his hole,*" and at length succeeded. This haughty rebel was forced to sue for pardon, offering to submit himself to the Queen's mercy, which the Lord President did consent unto; and James FITZ-MAURICE came to KILMALLOCK, where in the church, the Lord President caused him to lie prostrate, taking the point of his sword next his heart, in token that he had received his life at the Queen's hands, by submitting himself unto her mercy.

ARCHDALE, in speaking of this place, says "KILMALLOCK was formerly a town of great note, being walled, and the houses beautifully and elegantly built of hewn stone; it is now in ruins, yet has a greater share of magnificence, even in that miserable state, than any town in IRELAND; and a learned and ingenious writer has named it "*The Balbec of Ireland.*" It still retains the privilege of a borough, sending two members to parliament; and the corpora-

tion, in a petition to the House of Commons in the session of 1783, style themselves "the ancient and loyal borough of KILMALLOCK."

Such are the few and scattered memorials which I can collect from books respecting this once famous town: nor have I been able to add to this scanty stock of historical information by my inquiries amongst the most intelligent people of the country. Previous to the year 1571, when it was burned by the Earl of DESMOND, it appears to have been a place of consequence, and to have had two fine abbies, the one within, and the other without its walls. After this conflagration, I should date the building of the *new town*, when it received its valuable charter and privileges from Queen ELIZABETH. Sir John PERROT was at that time Lord President of MUNSTER; and the style of architecture corresponds particularly with that æra. KILMALLOCK is an object highly worthy of the attention both of the artist and the antiquary, and as the former will find more than a day's work for his pencil, he must take up his abode either at BRUFF or at CHARLEVILLE, for the best accommodations at KILMALLOCK are very indifferent.

On my return to LIMERICK from KILMALLOCK, I encountered a funeral most numerous attended by people on horseback and foot. The funeral car differed widely from those made use

of in ENGLAND; being a low carriage on four wheels, at each corner of which was a pillar supporting a canopy, decorated with a lofty plume of feathers in the centre, and a smaller one at each angle: beneath was placed the coffin, and at each corner sat a female figure. The whole had an awful and picturesque effect.

TUESDAY 8 JULY. This day was employed in visiting the few objects worthy of notice, which the interior of the city of LIMERICK contains: the Cathedral church was the first building that attracted our attention; but its architectural and monumental antiquities present no very striking features. The only piece of good old sculpture is the fragment of a monument in the south aisle to the memory of the GALWAY family. On the north side of the altar is a monument of DONOGH O'BRIEN, Earl of THOMOND, and President of MUNSTER, reedified in 1678, by HENRY the second Earl of THOMOND; the original tomb having been defaced in the rebellion*. I ob-

* *Donogh*, the fourth earl of *Thomond*, was commonly called "*The Great Earl*," being of distinguished courage, loyalty and worth, and highly esteemed by Queen *Elizabeth* and King *James*, in whose court he was brought up from his youth, and was rewarded with honourable employments, and large additions to his estates. He died in 1624, and was buried in the cathedral church of *Limerick*, where a splendid monument, and a long inscription in Latin commemorated his character. See *Lodge's Peerage*, Vol. 2, page 35.

served also the following whimsical inscription on a tablet in the church.

“ MEMENTO MORY.

*Here lyeth littele Samuel Barinton that great undertaker,
Of famious citti clock and chime maker.
He made his one time goe early and latter,
But now he is returned to God his creator;
The 19 of November then he scest, and for his memory
this here is pleast by his son Ben 1693.”*

I ascended to the summit of the church tower, from which there is a comprehensive view of the adjacent country, and the River SHANNON, which makes a noble bend near the town.

From the cathedral, I waded through the *old* town and the dirtiest streets I ever beheld to the Castle and THOMOND'S Bridge. Of the former, which is (as well as the latter) said to have been built by King JOHN about the year 1210, there are considerable remains on the banks of the river, but so blended with modern houses that they produce no good effect or subject for the pencil.

In point of antiquity, these are the only objects worth notice. LIMERICK contained formerly many monastic buildings, the greatest part of which have been supplanted by modern and more useful establishments. The traveller

who journeys through the country with a view of remarking its progressive state of trade and improvement, will feel highly gratified in viewing the *new* town, and the numerous military and commercial buildings which have been, and are still, erecting.

In the evening I walked to the Salmon Weir, distant about two miles from the city; where by means of a long line of wicker work extended across the river, with hatches, &c. the salmon are entrapped, and find their retreat to the salt water intercepted.

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY*. From LIMERICK to ADAIR, VIII MILES; road flat and good; cultivation better, fine crops of wheat, and less bog. Increase of trees, and amended appearance of cottages, bespeak an approach to some demesne, whose proprietor has not been insensible to the comforts of his poorer tenants.

On crossing a long and irregular bridge over the river MAIG, I found myself surrounded by several venerable monastic remains; for from this point of view four appear in sight: two of them are situated within, and two without the

* As at this place I deviated from the great road, and was informed that a supply of post horses was very uncertain; I made an agreement at *Limerick* for the whole journey to *Kil-larney*, as on all cross roads the postmasters are accustomed to charge by the job, or *ad libitum*; (*prout cuique voluntas*,) and not by the mile.

walls of Lord ADAIR's park. The first I visited, is situated near the bridge, and on the right-hand side of the road. This is a most interesting ruin, and its preservation is so great, owing to the hard nature of the limestone with which it is built, that it bears quite a modern appearance. Its nave and choir are decorated with many sepulchral niches and confessional stalls: and on the northern side of the building are the cloysters, of good *pointed* architecture, and in a very high state of preservation. Many of the exterior decorations of the windows are lost by a superabundant luxuriance of ivy.

And here, in defiance of vulgar prejudices, let me make two observations suggested by frequent examples that have occurred during my various perambulations of Wales, &c. So great a veneration has been generally attached to *ivy*, that by even hinting at a removal of it, I fear I shall be by many persons accused of sacrilege. It is not my intention however to recommend the *total* removal of a decoration so truly appropriated to the mouldering abbey, or embattled castle: I recommend only the *judicious* application of the pruning knife to those particular parts, where the luxuriance of the plant conceals from the eye the most ornamental parts of the building, such as its windows, &c. &c. In the abbey just mentioned, the eastern window is so completely hidden,

that the style of its design can only be guessed at, and the whole front presents a most unpicturesque mass of the heaviest foliage. How highly would it be improved by admitting the light tracery work of the window as a counterpoise to the dingy tints of the preponderating foliage.

My next observation is respecting the *interior* of the building; in the keeping of which I dare venture to recommend *neatness* and attention. Some persons I know, will immediately exclaim, “that a *chaos* of confused stones intermixed with briars and weeds, is much more characteristick of an abbey, and much more picturesque as to effect; and that any degree of order, is highly *out of order*.” Let those who have *seen* the effect of *neatness*, and *felt* what I did on the sudden opening of the doors of TINTERN Abbey in MONMOUTHSHIRE, determine this *orderly* dispute. And let those also who have viewed the majestic entrance to RAGLAND Castle in the same county judge, “whether the *total* concealment *by ivy* of one of the grand machicolated towers, is not much to be regretted?” I need not apply to the artist, who by profession and experience is taught to view objects in their most advantageous point of view, nor to the man of taste, whose enlightened eye and good judgment naturally point out to him the beauties as well as the defects of

nature, for their decision on this subject: for on impartial reflection, I am convinced their sentiments will be in unison with my own.

From this ruin, I entered the demesne of Lord ADAIR, and having crossed the river, visited another abbey, whose lofty turret renders it a conspicuous object. It resembles in a great measure the last, but is inferior as to its architectural decorations: it has several vacant sepulchral niches, and the stalls, which I have before styled confessionals, have oblong holes cut in them for the purpose of confession. The cloysters also are in a good state of preservation. I had not time to visit the ruins within the demesne adjoining the bridge. The grounds at ADAIR are flat, but well wooded and watered, and, like the generality of parks in IRELAND, not kept with that neatness so peculiar to the seats of British subjects in ENGLAND. Lord ADAIR is a great proprietor of ruins; having two inclosed within his park wall, and one on the immediate borders of it. What a beautiful and fruly enviable appendage would they form, if judiciously curtailed of the over-luxuriant ivy that conceals their fine architectural decorations; if cleansed from the trees, weeds and briars that grow up within their naves, choirs, and cloysters; and how forcibly would the mind of the traveller be re-

called to the history of past times, if the vacant sepulchral niches were filled with the recumbent effigies of monks, abbots and cross-legged knights, habited in the proper *costume* of the times*. Within the village is another ruin, which I imagine to have been the Castle of the Earl of DESMOND.

I cannot exactly distinguish these buildings as mentioned by ARCHDALE. He says that a Trinitarian Friary was founded on the south side of the town, for the redemption of christian captives, in the reign of King EDWARD the First, by John Earl of KILDARE†. This I imagine to be the building I have described *within* the park.

The same author adds, that an Augustinian Friary was founded on the south side of the

* Should this idea meet the eye, and command the serious attention of this noble lord, or indeed of any other proprietor of monastic remains so situated, let me recommend to their notice the *only* artist, who from his accurate knowledge of each varied æra of British architecture could give appropriate designs for such sepulchral effigies—Mr. John Carter, so well known amongst antiquaries, not only for his ingenious works, but for his zeal, industry and knowledge in the science of our national architecture.

† Mr. Lodge, in his genealogical account of the Earls of Kildare, says, that John, first Earl of Kildare, died in 1316, having, amongst other acts of religion, founded *two* friaries at Adair: and these were probably the *Trinitarian*, and *Augustinian* friaries here mentioned.

river by John Earl of KILDARE, son to Earl THOMAS, who died in the year 1315 : at the suppression of monasteries, it was called the BLACK ABBEY. This is certainly the fine abbey *without* the park, which I first described.

If I am right in my conjectures about these two buildings, the remaining building close to the bridge and *within* the park, must be the Grey Friary, which ARCHDALE says was founded in the east part of the town, A.D. 1465, by Thomas Earl of KILDARE, and Joan his wife, daughter of James Earl of DESMOND*.

From ADAIR it was my intention to have visited the ruins at ASKEATON, which would have made but a slight deviation from my intended road to TARBERT, but the information I collected at ADAIR respecting the state of the road, &c. was so very contradictory (three people at the public house giving me three different statements) that I was obliged to abandon my original plan, and pursue the direct road to TARBERT. That the traveller who takes this route, may in future profit from my failure, let me recommend his giving up a whole day to ADAIR, which even if he does not amuse himself with the pencil, would be profitably spent

* Mr. Lodge, in his *Peerage*, vol. i. p. 84, records the foundation and endowment of this Franciscan Friary by *Thomas, the seventh Earl of Kildare*.

on that pleasant spot: let him return to LIMERICK for the night, and take ASKEATON in his way the next morning to TARBERT.

Leaving ADAIR, see a ruined tower on the left; a church in ruins on the same side, and another castle of larger dimensions: a second church in ruins on the right, and a castle on the left. The country becomes worse, and more stony, yet produces some good wheat. The seat of Mr. BATEMAN on the right, opposite to the small village of NEWBRIDGE, where we baited ourselves and horses.

“A colony of foreigners called *Patatines*, was settled here by Lord SOUTHWELL about the beginning of the eighteenth century. They have in general leases of three lives, or 31 years, and are not cottars to any farmer; but if they work for them, are paid in money. Their mode of farming differs in several particulars from that adopted by the native Irish: they drill their potatoes, horse-hoe them while growing, and take them out with the plough: by which much dung is saved. They also plough without a driver; and their crops are much better than those of their neighbours. There are three villages of them, containing in the whole about seventy families. They are very industrious, and in consequence are much happier, and better fed, clothed, and lodged than the Irish pea-

sants. For some time after they settled, they fed upon their German diet, sour crout, but by degrees left it off, and took to that of the country, viz. potatoes, oat bread, and butter milk. They have convenient farm-offices for their cattle and agricultural instruments, and they feed their cows during the winter season in the house, upon hay and oat straw. The female part of their family is industrious, both within and without doors, either in rural or domestic economy, and indeed a perfect contrast to the female Irish." Such is the account given by Mr. Young, in his Irish Tour, of this Colony of *Palatines*, vol. i. p. 482.

From NEWBRIDGE to TARBERT, by GLYNN, XVI MILES. See on the left a tower on a hill, and another ruin on the right. Near GLYNN, a fine reach of the River SHANNON presents itself; a ruined church on the right; GLYNN is a small village near the river, with a tolerable looking inn: pass close to the residence of the KNIGHT OF GLYNN. At TARBERT, a little village, situated on a bay formed by the SHANNON, and on the confines of the counties of LIMERICK and KERRY, I found good quarters for the night.

THURSDAY 10 JULY. From TARBERT to LISTOWEL and TRALEE XXV MILES. See on the right a well wooded seat of the LESLIE family; and afterwards a fine expanse of the SHANNON

with the island of SCATTERY, on which a round tower makes a conspicuous appearance * ; at a

* From the account given by *Archdale* of this island, I should think it would repay the traveller for his trouble in visiting it: "*Inniscattery*, a rich and beautiful little island in the mouth of the River *Shannon*. *St. Senan*, of *Corca Baiscin* founded an abbey here before the arrival of *St. Patrick* in *Munster*, as some report; but others say, that *St. Patrick* himself was the founder, and that he placed *St. Senan* here; he had eleven churches for his monks, and no women were permitted to land on the island before the coming of the Danes into this country. The prelates of this noble and ancient church, are sometimes called by our ecclesiastical historians, Bishops, and at other times Abbots; in process of time it became a priory of regular canons. In the year 816 the Danes plundered the island, put the monks to the sword, and defaced the monument of the saint: and in the year 835 the same barbarians destroyed the monastery. In the year 950 the same people made it a place of arms; and in 972 *Mark*, the son of *Harold*, a Danish Chieftain, committed great devastations on this island, taking away much treasure, and many captives. In the year 975 it was recovered by *Brien* King of *Munster*, and *Mark* and his two sons, together with eight hundred Danes who had fled thither for safety some time before, were slain in this battle. The island was again plundered by the Danes of *Dublin* in 1057, and by the Danes of *Limerick* in 1176, and in 1179 we find that *William Hoel*, an English Knight, wasted the whole island, not even sparing the churches. In the reign of Queen *Elizabeth* the abbey with several cottages, ruined churches, &c. &c. were granted to the mayor and citizens of *Limerick* for ever. Mr. *Archdale* adds, that the monument of *St. Senan* is still to be seen, with the remains of eleven small churches and several cells; in the stone that closes the top of the altar window of the great church is a head of the saint, with his mitre, boldly executed, and but little defaced; an an-

short distance from the road, on the right are the ruins of CARRICK-A FOIL CASTLE*; and a little further, on the same side, is LISLAGHTIN Abbey, situated on rising ground. It is said to have been founded A.D. 1464, by O'CONCHOR (O'Connor) Prince of KERRY, for Franciscan Friars of the Strict Observance. Its plan is very similar to the abbies at ADAIR as to its

ancient round tower of 120 feet in height, and in complete repair, graces the scene. This island is remarkable for the resort of pilgrims on certain festivals." I have been rather diffuse in my account of this island, as it appears to be an object highly worth notice, and as some future tourist may be induced thereby to visit it.

* Some account of this castle, which he calls *Carrig foile*, may be found in *Smith's History of Kerry*; who says, that it was formerly the chief seat of O'Connor Kerry, so called to distinguish him from O'Connor Sligo. It is built in a strong situation on a small island, which stands in a bastion formed by the River Shannon. It was defended on the land side, opposite the island, by double walls, the outermost having square flankers, and the inward round bastions, built in the infancy of the art of fortification. At the back of the castle is an island, which defended it from being battered by shipping in the river.

However, this seemingly impregnable place was besieged and taken by Sir William Pelham, in the year 1580, and was also delivered up to Sir George Carew, Lord President of Munster in 1600. Its owner O'Connor, in consideration of his surrendering this place, received a grant of land in the County of Clare, and a garrison was placed in the castle.

Smith's History of Kerry, p. 226.

tower, windows, and cloysters. The interior of its nave and choir is still used as a place of interment, and its surface is thickly strewn with gravestones, bones and skulls*.

We baited our horses at LISTOWEL, a neat little town on the banks of the River FEAL, where there is a decent inn, with one pair of post horses. It has the remains of an old castle, the only particularity of which is a very high circular-headed arch†. On the banks of the said

* Mr. *Smith* differs somewhat in his account of this abbey. He says it was founded in 1478 by John O'Connor, and that it was dedicated to *St. Laghtin*, an Irish saint, who died in 622.

† In the year 1600, *Listowel* Castle, the last and only one that held out for Lord *Kerry*, was besieged by Sir Charles *Wilmot*. As a chamber was preparing to place the powder in a mine, to blow up the castle, a spring of water gushed out in such abundance, that he was obliged to begin a new work, which he carried under ground to the midst of a vault in the castle: the work being perceived by the garrison, they called out for mercy; but he would hear of no terms but their surrendering at discretion. The ward, being eighteen men, submitted on their knees, but the women and children were suffered to depart. Nine of the English having been shot during the siege, he presently caused the same number of prisoners to be hanged; and by the President's order the residue were soon after executed, except an Irish priest, named Sir *Dermot Mac-Brodie*, who was pardoned for the following reason.

It happened that upon surrendering the castle, the Lord *Kerry's* eldest son, then but five years old, was carried away by an old woman, almost naked, and besmeared with dirt: *Wilmot* detached a party in search of him, who returned without find-

river, and at a short distance from the town is WOODFORD, the seat of the KNIGHT OF KERRY, where there are some remains of an old castle. The country from hence to TRALEE becomes worse, *if possible*; a long dreary flat, rough pastures and bog. Pass by LIXNAW, formerly the fine seat of the Earls of KERRY, but now sold. See on a hill near the road a Mausoleum, in which, Thomas, first Earl of *Kerry*, who died in 1741, at the advanced age of 80 years, was interred. He was the twenty-first Lord of KERRY, and was advanced to the peerage by *King George the First* in the year 1722. The shapeless ruins of ODORNEY Abbey are seen at a short distance to the right of the road. This abbey was founded A.D. 1154, and supplied with monks from the Cistercian Abbey of MAGIO, or MAIG, in the County of LIMERICK: it possessed great riches, and its Abbot was a Lord of Parliament. After a most tedious journey, our eyes were at length greeted by a sight of TRALEE, the county town of KERRY, situated on the borders of a finely broken bay, sur-

ing the child; but the priest proposed, if Sir Charles would spare his life, and that of the child, to discover where he was; which being granted, he went with a captain's guard to a thick wood, six miles from the castle, which was almost impassable, where, in a hollow cave, they found the old woman and the child, whom they brought to Sir Charles, who sent both the priest and the child to the Lord President. *Smith's History of Kerry*, p. 287.

rounded, by lofty mountains. We found tolerable accommodations at the **CROSBIE ARMS, DEVINE.**

This town, deriving its name from the small **River LEIGH**, which discharges itself into the adjoining bay, was formerly the chief residence of the Earls of **DESMOND**, but after the attainder of **GERALD**, the sixteenth Earl of **DESMOND**, in 1582, it was incorporated in 1612, and is now the shire town of the County of **KERRY**. It had formerly four castles, one of which was the residence of the **DESMONDS**, and also a convent for Dominican friars, founded according to **ARCHDALE A.D. 1213**, and according to **SMITH** in 1243, or 1260. **Mr. LODGE**, in his account of the **DESMOND** family, says that **John**, son of **Thomas FITZGERALD**, surnamed the Great, founded this abbey at **TRALEE** for friars preachers; and that he and his son **MAURICE** were killed at **CALLAN** by **MAC-CARTHY MORE** in 1261, and both buried in this friary, which in latter times became the general burial place of the **DESMOND** family: the military and monastic remains at **TRALEE** are now reduced to a few fragments of one of the castles.

FRIDAY, 11 JULY. An invitation from **Lord GLANDORE**, and a desire to see **ARD-FERT**, induced us to prolong our stay in this

neighbourhood*. We went there by the road leading to the Spa, which gave us an advantageous view of the fine bay. ARDFERT, (according to the *Iter*†) was the ancient capitol of KERRY, and its university was held in the highest esteem. It is a bishop's see, and borough by ancient prescription, and has been held in *commendam* with the Bishoprick of

* A day might be saved to the tourist, by seeing *Ardfert* on his journey from *Tarbert* to *Tralce*; or a separate excursion might be made from the latter place to *Ardfert* and *Kerry Head*, from whence I am told the mouth of the *Shannon* presents a very bold and tremendous appearance.

Arthur Young gives the following account of this spot. "I rode (from *Ardfert*) over one of the finest strands, to view the mouth of the *Shannon* at *Ballingary*, the scite of an old fort: it is a vast rock, separated from the country by a chasm of a prodigious depth, through which the waves drive. The rocks of the coast here are in the boldest style, and hollowed by the furious Atlantic waves into caverns in which they roar. It was a dead calm, yet the swell was so heavy, that the great waves rolled in, and broke upon the rocks with such violence as to raise an immense foam, and give one an idea of what a storm would be; but fancy rarely falls short in her pictures: the view of the *Shannon* is exceedingly noble; it is eight miles over, the mouth formed by two headlands of very high and bold cliffs, and the reach of the river in view is very extensive; it is an immense scenery; perhaps the noblest mouth of a river in Europe."

Vol. i. p. 472.

† When I mention the *Iter*, I allude to a most excellent and useful publication called "*The Post Chaise Companion, or Traveller's Directory*, the third edition of which (with additions) was published in 1803.

LIMERICK ever since the Restoration. ARCHDALE informs us, that ST. BRENDAN erected a sumptuous monastery here in the sixth century, which together with the town, was destroyed by fire A. D. 1089. It was again reduced to ashes in 1151, by the hands of CORMAC O'CULEN, and in 1179 the abbey and town suffered the same fate; but its final demolition was accomplished during the wars of 1641*.

The ruins of this Cathedral bear many marks of high antiquity. In the western front are four round arches decorated with the zigzag ornament; and the eastern front is composed of three elegant narrow pointed windows. On the right hand of the altar are some niches with Saxon mouldings. The area of this Cathedral is shamefully crowded with tombs, and thickly strewn with bones and skulls. Amongst the tombstones, I found one with the effigy of a bishop rudely sculptured in relief.

On the north-west side of the Cathedral, are two small buildings; one of which bears marks of remote antiquity. It has a wide Saxon doorway to the east, and a smaller one of the same Order to the west; also a window curiously ornamented with fretwork; and appears

* Some historical account of this See, extracted from the annals of *Innisfallen*, is given by Mr. *Smith*, in his *History of Kerry*, page 199.

to have had a Saxon pillar at each angle. But this venerable pile of monastic buildings has lost much of its grandeur as well as interest, by the fall of a stately round tower [in the year 1771] of 120 feet in height, which stood near the west front of the Cathedral.

Within the demesne of Lord GLANDORE, and very near his house, are the remains of a fine abbey, which are most happily introduced as a picturesque appendage to his pleasure grounds. The tower, nave, and a great part of the cloysters remain in tolerable preservation; but the form and tracery of the eastern window is completely hidden by ivy, which wants the *judicious* application of the pruning knife. The architecture of the building does not bespeak a very early date. On one of the columns in the nave is a Latin inscription; recording (as I was told) some repairs done to the building. The accounts given by ARCHDALE, and by the Editor of the octavo edition of the *Monasticon Hibernicum*, differ somewhat respecting these monastic establishments. The former says that in the year 1253, THOMAS Lord of KERRY founded a monastery at ARDFERT for Conventual Franciscans, and that the founder, together with several Lords of KERRY were interred there. The latter observes that a monastery was built there in the year 1389, by one of the FITZ-MAURICE family, who were Barons

of KERRY and LIXNAW: and that it was reformed by the Observants in the year 1518.

SATURDAY 12 JULY. From TRALEE to KILLARNEY XV MILES. A dull and dreary tract of uninteresting country; bad roads and broken bridges*, conspiring to retard our journey to the long-wished for object of our journey. We fixed our quarters at the KENMARE ARMS HOTEL, SCANLAN.

There ended a long and tedious journey of one hundred and sixty-five Irish miles, in which, few, I fear, except the lovers of monastic antiquities, will find much amusement or gratification. Though the roads are generally good, and the inns tolerable, the country is most uniformly uninteresting. A level surface, presenting a succession of bog, arable and pasture lands, the latter much neglected; no hedges, and a total want of wood, except in the immediate vicinity of some gentleman's seat, compose the evidence on behalf of this tract of country. But whilst the feeling heart views with pity the deplorable and filthy habitations of the peasants, swarming with a numerous, but

* I shall have occasion hereafter to state the method in which the public roads and bridges are repaired: as the *usual* time of settling these accounts is at the summer assizes, the necessary reparations are frequently delayed till near the time of the Circuit, that the undertakers of the *job* may not *lie long out of their money*.

apparently healthy population, it will observe with pleasure, the improving state of the towns and cities (TULLAMORE, BIRR, NENAGH, LIMERICK, TRALEE) and feel a distant hope, that their increasing prosperity may ultimately tend to alleviate the miseries of the poor, and render the situation of the peasants more comfortable.

KILLARNEY—And now, my readers, after having conducted them over a long and dreary tract of one hundred and sixty-five Irish miles, to the borders of this far famed lake, the *Tempe* of IRELAND, will naturally expect a detailed description of its beauties; but as it is equally out of the power of the pen or pencil to do them justice, I shall not venture upon an attempt where my failure would be certain.

It is a mortifying circumstance, that many of the finest views in nature, and which at first sight make the strongest impression upon the eyes and the imagination, should defy both the powers of imitation and description. I have particularly found the failure of the pencil in *lake scenery*; and have had cause to lament that my sketches, either on the lakes of SWITZERLAND, WESTMORELAND, or KILLARNEY, could convey little more than a general idea of the *outline* of the mountains and surrounding scenery. In short, nature in her *court dress*, will not be copied; whilst in her humble *cot-*

tage attire, she becomes less coy, and oftentimes assumes a greater degree of consequence, than at first sight she appears to merit. What pencil can give an adequate idea of the super-eminent beauties of the mountains and rocky scenery of GLENAA and CROMIGLAUN? can express the transient and fleeting effects of the clouds upon them, or trace their transparent reflections in the waters beneath? What pencil can imitate the varied tints of the numerous lichens, shrubs and plants that deck the rocky boundaries of these lakes, or give a faithful representation of the fantastic forms that the rocks assume? In the name of my brother artists, I will answer, none. The powers of the *pen* will fail equally in description. For when I say, that the Mountains of TOMIES, GLENAA, and TURK, are finely wooded down to the water edge; that the river abounds with every variety that rock, trees, and water can produce; that the Eagle's Nest* towers up most majestically from its banks; that the surface of the Upper Lake is broken by numerous rocky islands, and boldly indented shores; that it is backed by an almost endless range of the most picturesque mountains; that "*Hills o'er hills, and Alps o'er Alps ascend!*" that the rocks which bound the

* A mountain so called, from the circumstance of eagles making their nests upon it.

Lakes of MUCRUSS and the Lower Lake, have, by continual beating of the waves, assumed the most singular and fantastic forms, added to the most harmonious colouring; and that they are covered with arbutus, heaths, and the greatest variety of plants imaginable; shall I convey any idea of this enchanting scenery? I answer, no. The collected beauties of this favoured spot are so great, so varied, and so superior to any thing I have yet seen, either in ITALY, SWITZERLAND, or ENGLAND, that they can neither be delineated nor described; to be *felt*, they must be *seen*.

*Segnius irritant animos, demissa per aurem,
Quàm quæ sunt oculis subjecta fidelibus.*

KILLARNEY however must not be passed over in silence; as some useful hints may be given to future tourists by one who is fully sensible of its beauties, though unequal to the task of describing them.

The usual routine adopted by the guides cannot perhaps be altered for the better; we had every reason to be satisfied with Mr. PLUNKETT's judgment in the arrangement of our tour, and in the good taste he displayed in pointing out particular objects. The place of embarking is at ROSS CASTLE; a small fort, which,

were it not so sadly disfigured by the hideous barracks attached to it, would be a very picturesque object *. This approach to the lake is far from prepossessing, the shores being flat and boggy: nor did its beauties begin to unfold themselves, till we stretched across from the N.E. point of Ross Island to that of INNISFALLEN *. Close to the landing place, there are considerable remains of an abbey, thickly embosomed in wood, but they present only a

* This castle was once the seat of *O'Donoghoe*, and has for some years past been a military garrison, having a government appointed for it upon the establishment. In the wars of 1641, it surrendered to *Ludlow*, who was attended in the expedition by Lord *Broghill*, and Sir *Hardless Waller*, and was the last place that held out in *Munster* against the English parliament.

Smith's Kerry, p. 127.

† An abbey was founded on this island towards the close of the sixth century, by *St. Finian Lovhar*, or the Leper, son of *Alild*, King of *Munster*, and disciple of *St. Brendan*: it was esteemed a paradise, and so secure a sanctuary, that the treasure and most valuable effects of the whole country were deposited there in the hands of the clergy; it was however plundered in the year 1180, by *Maolduin*, son of *Daniel O'Donoghoe*; when many of the clergy were slain, and even in their cemeteries, by the *McCarthy's*. In the 37th of Queen *Elizabeth* a grant was made of this abbey and its possessions, being three plough-lands, containing 120 acres of arable land, to *Robert Collon*. The monks of this island, who were of the order of *St. Augustin*, have left some historical annals, which are held in high estimation.

massive and unadorned pile of rude masonry : adjoining these ruins is a small chapel (now converted into a banqueting room) which, in the Saxon decorations of its doorway, bears the marks of high antiquity.

This island is richly decked with the greatest variety of wood *, and its surface is beautifully irregular ; it is nearly a mile in circumference, and comprehends more natural beauties than I ever remember to have seen collected within so narrow a compass. Strangers who visit this charming spot, have cause to regret that its walks are not better kept, and that it is pastured by horned cattle instead of sheep ; as the trees suffer considerably by the depredations of the former, and the lawn would be much more nicely trimmed by the close feeding teeth of the latter.

As the north west side of this lake affords no scenery worth notice, we crossed directly from the Island of INNISFALLEN, in a westerly direction, to O'SULLIVAN'S Cascade, a pretty water-fall, finely embosomed in a thick forest. Coasting under the lofty and well wooded TOMIES Mountain, the view opens most magnificently

* The hollics in this island are remarkable for their size. I found one, upon measurement, to be ten feet in circumference : the total want of arbutus on this island, may arise from the richness of its soil ; for this plant seems to prefer a dry and rocky situation.

at GLENAA Point, and presents a fine semicircle of wood and mountain. Leaving the pretty little cottage of GLENAA to our right, we entered TURK, or MUCRUSS Lake, under BRICKEEN Bridge. The majestic TURK forms the southern banks of this lake, and rises perpendicularly from the water's edge*. The northern boundaries are formed by a long and narrow peninsula,

* I was sorry to see a colony of *Scotchmen* transplanted to the borders of this lake. The *Fir* tree, from its uniform and never varied shape, but ill accords with scenery so wild and natural as that which environs these lakes on all sides; and of all the different species of that tribe, the *Scotch* fir is the worst in every point of view, both as to profit and beauty: being almost the only fir that does not in its growth assume a spiral form, the quantity of timber it produces, is far less than in those sorts, viz. the *Larch*, *Spruce*, *Silver*, &c. &c. which measure up to the very top; and the *Scotch* fir has this disadvantage in point of profit, that it takes nearly double the number of years to ripen, though, I will allow, when mature, it may surpass in value the other sorts. As to beauty, in my opinion, it has none. All the other tribes, though uniform in their spiral shape, have *rich tints* to recommend them, and, mixed with forest trees, do not hurt the eye of the colourist: but the *Scotchman* is discordant throughout, and its *blue* foliage always offends, and never pleases the eye of taste. I have never seen this tribe look even tolerably well, except when planted together in a large mass, unmixed with any other kind of trees; and then, in particular situations, they have an imposing, though always a *sombre* effect. I was happy however to learn from Mr. *Herbert's* gardener, that the firs were only intended as *nurses* to the forest trees; and that, having performed their parental office, they would bend to the axe. Every stranger who visits this charming lake, will join with me in the fervent hope that these good intentions may be fulfilled!

which divides MUCRUSS from the Lower Lake, and terminates at BRICKEEN Bridge. All this line of coast deserves particular attention, and a very minute examination: nothing can exceed in singularity the forms of the rocky excavations, or in beauty of effect the harmonious tints of the rocks and herbage. Here should the young and enthusiastic artist fix his seat for many successive days. One small rock on this coast, which is connected with the main land by a very narrow path, is particularly worth notice, from its very picturesque form, and the singular arched excavations beneath it. On our return to the Lower Lake, a sudden storm presented the mountains and water in a very different, and, I may add, a much grander point of view. Having refreshed ourselves and boatmen at the retired Cottage of GLENAA, we returned to the place of our embarkment at Ross Castle.

TUESDAY 15 JULY. This morning was allotted to the peninsula of MUCRUSS. On entering the grounds of Mr. HERBERT, the attention is attracted by the ruins of an abbey*,

* As this abbey is neither mentioned by *Archdale*, nor by the Editor of the smaller edition of the *Monasticon*, I conclude it was not a very important establishment. Mr. *Holmes*, in his Tour (page 126) says, "that it was founded A. D. 1440, by *Donald*, the son of *Thady M'Carty*, for Minorites or Conventual Franciscans, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity: that it was

thickly embosomed in wood. The architecture is *pointed*; the style bad, and of no great antiquity. The cloysters are perfect, but very gloomy: a yew tree, which from the straitness and unusual height of its stem, has been evidently reared up within the area of the cloyster, deserves notice. The cemetery of this abbey is still made use of, and exhibits the same disgusting and indecent remains of bones, skulls, and coffins, which I have had occasion to remark before at ARDFERT and LISLAGHTIN*.

From these ruins we ascended an eminence in the park, called, I think, DRUM O'ROURKE, from which there is a most bewitching view of MUCRUSS, the Lower Lake, and the distant mountains that inclose the Upper Lake; the most beautiful *Panorama* I ever beheld. We afterwards examined the long and narrow penin-

repaired by him in 1468, the year he died; and again reedified in 1602; but soon after fell to decay.

* Sir John Carr, in his late publication (page 363) notices this circumstance in very strong language: "So loaded with contagion is the air in this spot, that every principle of humanity imperiously calls upon the indulgent owner, to exercise his right of closing it up as a place of sepulture in future. I warn every one who visits *Killarney*, as he values life, not to enter this abbey. Contrast renders doubly horrible the ghastly contemplation of human dissolution, tainting the surrounding air with pestilence, in a spot which nature has enriched with a profusion of romantic beauty."

sula that terminates at BRICKEEN Bridge, making occasional deviations to the romantic shores of MUCROSS Lake. There is too much uniformity in the line of this drive ; and I think it would admit of great improvement, by judicious openings to the bays of each lake, and occasional paths leading to the most striking parts of the shore : some disgusting bogs also should be planted.

WEDNESDAY 16 JULY. This day was devoted to the Upper Lake. We embarked on the westerly side of Ross Island (which has been lately much disfigured by the working of a copper mine) and stretched across the Lower Lake to the shores of GLENAA and DINIS Island, where we were obliged to land, whilst our boatmen pushed their vessel up a shallow but rapid stream. This island is remarkable for its fine arbutus, one stem of which measured four feet and a half in circumference. We were obliged shortly to disembark a second time, while the boatmen performed a similar operation up the stream under the OLD WEIR Bridge. Our attention was soon arrested by a high towering rock, called the EAGLE'S NEST, rising almost perpendicularly, in a spiral form, from the water's edge, and richly decked with wood. The firing of a swivel gun produced a fine repeated echo, as well as the bugle horn ; the deception of which is very great, when you

know where it is placed, and from whence the sound proceeds. This river takes a very serpentine course; at one time confined within a narrow channel; at another expanding its waters into large bays, with rocky banks, beautifully decked with arbutus, heaths, lichens, and a variety of other plants and mosses. The winding entrance into the Upper Lake by the passage of COLMAN'S EYE is very singular. You see no expanse of water, but the most irregularly indented shores and bays: the distant perspective most magnificently closed by an extensive range of the grandest mountains; of which those called the SUGAR LOAF, and the REEKS, form the most prominent features. A pretty cottage on RONAN'S Island, afforded us shelter from a violent storm, and a room to eat our cold meat. The PURPLE MOUNTAIN * appears full in view from this cottage, with the REEKS and SUGAR LOAF to the left. The *strata* of rocks in this lake, are totally different from those in the Lower Lake and MUCRUSS Lake; the latter being chiefly limestone, which admits of those fantastic varieties I have before mentioned. These are of green stone, which near the water assumes a blackish hue, whilst the upper parts are spotted with white. Nature has here

* So called from the colour it assumes, and arising from the stones that are shivered on its surface.

proved herself an admirable painter, in adapting the light and airy tints of the limestone rock, to the gay and luxuriant shores of GLENAA and MUCRUSS; and the more dingy shadows to the bold and savage features of the Upper Lake. After dinner, we coasted the southern shores and bays of this lake, where the long extended range of rock and wood called CROMIGLAUN, excited universal admiration; and we all agreed to give the due preference to this scenery. *Una vox, una sententia.* Leaving this enchanting spot with regret, we measured back the same watery track; each object presenting itself in a different point of view. We shot with great rapidity the two waterfalls, and reentering the Lower Lake, coasted along the northern shores of MUCRUSS, where we observed the termination of the green stone, and commencement of the limestone rock. There are several insolated rocks on this coast, that assume very grotesque shapes, and none more so than that bearing the strong resemblance, at a little distance, of a horse drinking.

THURSDAY 17 JULY. This morning was given up to a land excursion; and exhibited some scenery totally different to that we had for some days past been accustomed to. We skirted the N.E. banks of the Lower Lake, leaving the

trifling remains of AGHADOE Abbey upon an eminence to the right, and crossed a bridge over the River LAUNE, which issues from the lake. Saw DUNLOE Castle embosomed in a thick wood to the left, and continued our road in a direct line to a bold chasm, formed in a long and irregular chain of mountains, called the GAP OF DUNLOE. This narrow pass is bounded on the N.W. by the REEKS, and on the S.E. by that range of mountains, of which TOMIES and GLENAA are the principal. Its scenery is truly Alpine, and on a grand scale: the track rugged, but well worth the trouble of ascending. The horrors of the black surrounding rocks are much heightened by their reflections in the different lakes at their base. The scenery resembles that of the Pass of LLANBERIS under SNOWDON in North Wales, but the vegetation amongst the rocks is much more luxuriant. This valley and pass afford many good subjects for the pencil, and are highly worthy the artist's attention.

FRIDAY 18 JULY. I spent this morning in viewing more leisurely the beautiful *detail* of the Lower Lake, skirting some of its islands, and landing on others. The rocks on CROW ISLAND are very fine, and richly decked with a profusion of plants; near it are several barren and detached rocks of the most fantastic shapes,

many of them having derived their appellations from their resemblance to other forms; such as O'DONAGHOE'S TABLE, ELEPHANT ISLAND, HEN AND CHICKENS, &c. &c. ROUGH or COARSE ISLAND, after INNISFALLEN, is the best wooded; and commands a very advantageous view of the beautiful bay and inlet to the River near GLENAA.

SATURDAY 19 JULY. Having procured saddle horses at KILLARNEY, we proceeded on a mountainous expedition to the lofty summit of MANGERTON. Passing by MUCRUSS, we turned off to the left, and by a long, stony, and rugged ascent, reached the summit in safety. The pool, called the DEVIL'S PUNCH BOWL, by no means answers to its name, or form, being rather oval or oblong, than round: and there is another lake beyond it, which is more worth notice. Some of the views from this lofty eminence are striking; particularly that of KENMARE River extending to the sea; and the coast towards BANTRY BAY. Towards the west we saw CASTLEMAIN and DINGLE Bay; and beyond them the SHANNON. But the grandest object, and nearer at hand, is that magnificent range of mountains, west of the Upper Lake; of which the REEKS, and the SUGAR LOAF are the most conspicuous. The numerous lakes which are interspersed amongst these mountains in every direction, have a very

singular effect. By the recommendation of our guides, we sent our horses back by the way they came, and descended the mountain in a *direct* line, over a pathless track of heath, bog, and rock ; a journey which I recommend every future tourist to avoid. We joined our horses on the road leading from KILLARNEY to KENMARE, and on our return enjoyed a very advantageous view of MUCRUSS and the Lower Lakes.

SUNDAY 20 JULY. The usual *routine* being now accomplished*, we spent a few hours in examining Lord KENMARE'S Deer Park : which, according to Irish custom, is *detached* from the mansion house. The grounds are irregular and well wooded, commanding some pleasing views of the Lower Lake, but inferior to many we had before seen. There is a pretty glen watered by a mountain stream. A great portion of this park, and indeed the finest part

* Although the places I have mentioned, are those to which the attention of the tourist is usually confined, I am convinced that many equally beautiful spots might be discovered by those who have time at command, and inclination to make use of that time to advantage. *Less* time certainly ought not to be allotted to Killarney than *one entire week* ; and another could be very pleasantly employed, in retracing the same ground. The Upper Lake demands a *second* visit ; for there are so many attractions on the road thither, that, on arriving there, and calculating the time required for the return, there is too little left for a satisfactory examination of its many and varied beauties.

of it with respect to timber, is let to Mr. CRO-
NAN : the whole, if united, would form a noble
demesne, and a delightful residence ; for at pre-
sent all the beauties of the lake are totally lost
to its noble proprietor, owing to the bad situ-
ation of his mansion house. Neither does the
residence of Mr. HERBERT command to advan-
tage those natural beauties which he possesses
in a still greater degree than Lord KENMARE.
Strangers also, on coming to KILLARNEY, ex-
perience a great mortification in finding that
the object of their attention, is so far removed
from the place of their residence ; and that the
shores of the lake are not within the distance
of a moderate walk *. Neither do I think that
the regulations respecting boats, though at first
sight very plausible, tend to the comfort of the
tourist. Their prices are fixed † ; their number
limited, and at the command of one individual,

* The shores to the north-east of *Ross Castle*, are flat and bog-
gy ; those to the south-east of it, command a beautiful view of
Glenaa and *Tomies* in front ; but being occupied by the villas of
Mr. *Herbert* of *Cahirnane*, and of Mrs. *Delaney*, the public are
deprived of those walks and enjoyments that the banks of this
lake would otherwise afford.

† These prices are thus regulated, and a written account of
them is fixed up over the chimney of the hotel, for the infor-
mation of travellers. Boat 5s. per day, and as much more to the
Steersman as you please. 5s. to the Bugle, 2s. 2d. to each Boat-
man on the Upper Lake, and 1s. 7½d. on the Lower Lake, with
their dinners and liquor each day.

whereas if a general licence was given to keep boats on the lake, I am convinced that the public would be both better and more reasonably served. The true enthusiast, the lover of nature, and the artist, would wish, after having had a general introduction to the different lakes, to revisit them at his ease, and survey their manifold beauties in *detail*: but this, from want of small boats, he cannot do: he cannot at his pleasure, ramble down to the lake, take his boat, and amuse himself for a few hours on its enchanting banks; the scheme and arrangement of each day must be preconcerted, the boat bespoken, the dinner ordered, &c. &c.; in short, difficulties and expence will ultimately exhaust the patience and the purse of even the most sanguine admirer of nature*.

I have seen no spot more adapted for the school of a landscape artist than KILLARNEY; and where he may study all the component parts of a fine picture with greater advantage. The rocks that bound the shores of MUCRUSS

* The plan mentioned by Mr *Arthur Young*, in his *Irish Tour*, (vol. i. p. 459) is admirable; and I am surprised it never has been adopted. He there recommends the building of a spacious hotel on the immediate shores of the lake, which should furnish to travellers every accommodation and comfort of an English Spa within doors, and all the necessaries for amusement without. This intelligent and observing author has devoted several pages to the description of *Killarney* and its environs, which are well worth the perusal of those who intend to visit them.

and the Lower Lake, with their harmonious tints, and luxuriant decoration of foliage, stand unrivalled, both in form and colouring. The character of the mountains is as grand and varied, as the lakes in which they reflect their rugged summits; and the inconstant state of the climate subjects each to the most sudden changes, and produces the most admirable effects of light and shade imaginable. Here, in short, in this western *Tempe*, the artist will find every thing he can possibly wish: the *beautiful* in the Lower, and MUCRUSS Lakes; the *sublime* in the Upper Lake; *variety* in the river that connects the lakes, and the *savage* in the mountains that form the Pass of DUNLOE*.

MONDAY 21 JULY †. Leaving KILLARNEY with regret, I continued my journey towards CORK, stopping the first night at MILL STREET, XVI MILES, where I found a good inn. The road is very rough, and according to an Irish expres-

* The accommodations which we found at *Scanlan's Hotel*, the *Kcnmare Arms*, were both good and reasonable. Our charges as follows: Dinner 3s. 3d. per head. Breakfast 1s. 7½d. Tea 1s. 1d. Horses per night 3s. 3d. Beds 1s. to those who had horses, and 1s. 7½d. to those who had not. The provisions were excellent in their kind, and the supply of sea and fresh water fish was very good. Lodgings are rather dear, the usual price being 2s. 8d. for each room per night.

* On leaving Killarney, I was again obliged to make a bargain for post horses to conduct me to *Cork*.

sion, *as straight as a gun barrel*. On the right is a continued range of mountains, amongst which the figure of those called the PAPPs, is very singular*. The face of the country presents an unvaried continuation of heathy bog, and woodless enclosures; but the numerous fragments of roots of trees, and timber dug out of the bog, prove that in former times, the surface of this country bore a very different appearance. We met on the road numerous troops of packhorses conveying casks of salt butter from the interior districts to CORK.

TUESDAY 22 JULY. From MILL STREET to CORK, XXIII MILES At a short distance from MILL STREET is a tedious, but gradual ascent, of four miles, over a very rough road; heathy mountains and uninteresting scenery; a continued deluge of rain rendering every object still more dreary. We at length found a halting place, at a little inn, called the TEN MILE HOUSE, where having broken one of my carriage springs, I had great reason to complain of im-

* These two mountains have derived this name from their round and equal form, resembling the human breast; two little protuberances in the centre of each (and which I suspect to be *Carnedd*s) make the resemblance still greater, and their title more appropriate. The *Carnedd* and the *Tumulus* of earth were the common monuments which the ancient Britons erected in honour of their great men; and the materials of their construction were probably determined by the circumstance whether the country was stony or not.

posing charges made both by the landlord, and the blacksmith, whose assistance was wanting to mend the fracture. On speaking to the waiter about him, he told me, "that the people of this district were very *tough* and quarrelsome." The hills continue, and the road improves a little, but is still bad. Cultivation mends, and some good crops of wheat and barley testify the fertility of the soil. See on the left a castle amongst woods, and another nearer CORK, on the side of the River LEE; but the misty state of the atmosphere obscured all these views, which appear to be rich, as well as those of the City of CORK. We lodged at SCRAIG'S HOTEL, in GEORGE STREET, a large but dirty inn.

WEDNESDAY 23 JULY. The City of CORK affords more matter of information to the commercial, than to the antiquarian tourist; for it bears the resemblance of a wealthy trading town in England, and has no churches*, monuments, or

*The Cathedral, dedicated to *Saint Finbarr*, was founded by that Saint in the 7th century; and by length of time it fell into decay and ruin. In the year 1723, it was taken down, in order to be rebuilt, and was finished in 1735. The expence of this building was defrayed by a parliamentary tax of 1s. per ton laid on all coals and culm, consumed within the City of Cork. A round tower stood formerly in the churchyard, a little detached from the church.

Smith's History of Cork, vol. i, p. 372.

other ancient buildings worth notice. The streets are wide and airy, and the principal bridge reminded me of the elegant PONTE DELLA TRINITA over the River ARNO at FLORENCE. The Parade, a spacious street, is ornamented with an equestrian statue of King GEORGE the Second.

Mr. NEWENHAM's pleasure boat conducted us from CORK to his seat at COOLMORE, on the S.W. side of the haven. The banks of the River LEE are thickly studded with gentlemen's villas, and grounds well wooded, which give it a rich and cheerful appearance. Near the Village of PASSAGE, the channel contracts itself. Leaving MONKSTOWN on our right, and COVE, with the Islands of SPIKE and HAWLBOWLING, to the left, we landed near the seat of Mrs. CONNOR, and walked to COOLMORE, which is distant about a mile from the shore of the harbour.

THURSDAY 24 JULY. The whole morning was spent on board Mr. NEWENHAM's hooker*; and a more delightful, animated, and novel water excursion was never experienced. The gentlemen residing near the harbour, have established a club; the members of which meet every Thursday during summer at a certain ren-

* The vessels so called are of a very particular construction: they sail well, are very safe, and excellently well adapted to water excursions.

devious. Each vessel bears the Admiral's flag in its turn, and on that day all the other vessels are subservient to the orders issued by its commander. Those orders are given by hoisting flags of different colours, and of which they have a great variety. Our host, Mr. NEWENHAM, being Admiral for the day, our amusement and interest were much increased, by seeing minutely the mode of proceeding. Near the mouth of the harbour * a signal was given to chase, as far as POOR HEAD; and another to return to MONKSTOWN, on which occasion every vessel endeavoured to make the best of its way to the destined goal. The numerous vessels manœuvring, tacking, and vying with each other, with their sails illuminated by a bright sunshine, formed the most picturesque scene imaginable, and which was much heightened by a stately frigate sailing out of the harbour, in the midst of the smaller craft, and by the dismasted wrecks of two merchantmen, that had narrowly escaped the vengeance of a dreadful storm, and were seeking shelter in this noble port. This

* This noble harbour, in which the whole British navy could ride at anchor in safety, is about a mile wide at its opening, between *Ram Point* and *Dog's Nose*. *Poor Head* and *Cork Head* form two more distant boundaries of it. A survey of the whole harbour was made in 1801, by Admiral *Knight*, and is sold at *Cork*.

aquatic expedition, during which we made the circuit of a large part of the harbour, presented the different islands and shores to great advantage. The town of COVE is increasing rapidly in buildings and commerce, and from the superior advantages it possesses over CORK, bids fairly, in the course of time, to supplant it; for here the merchant can unload his cargo in the sight of his own storehouses; whereas all heavy vessels destined for CORK, are now obliged to unship them at the village of PASSAGE; the River LEE not affording a sufficient depth of water to convey them to CORK.

SATURDAY 26 JULY. I embarked on board Mr. NEWENHAM's row boat, from the beautiful grounds of Mrs. CONNOR, which appear to me to be the pleasantest on the harbour, in point of situation, and to command the best view of this fine sheet of water. In a little more than an hour, by the help of oars and a sail, we traversed nearly the whole length of the harbour from west to east, and landed at ROSTYN-NAN; the ancient seat of the INCHQUIN family, delightfully situated on the S. East shores of this noble bay, and commanding a view of it in its greatest extent from an elevated terrace, on which some guns are mounted. On this terrace is a statue of Admiral HAWKE: the position of which rather surprised me, as the *back*

of this celebrated warrior was turned upon the very element, on which he had acquired such immortal honour*.

* The victory obtained by Admiral *Hawke* over *Conflans*, gave rise to the following spirited song.

“ The watery god, great *Neptune*, lay
In dalliance soft, and amorous play
On *Amphitrite’s* breast :
When uproar rais’d its horrid head ;
His palace shook, the *Tritons* fled,
And each his fear confess’d.

Loud thunder shook his wide domain,
The liquid world was wrapt in flame,
The god amazed spoke ;
‘ Ye winds go forth, and make it known,
Who dares to shake my coral throne,
And veil my realms in smoke ?’

The winds submissive to his nod,
Sprung strongly up to obey their god,
And saw two fleets at sea ;
The one victorious *Hawke* ! was thine,
The other *Conflan’s* broken line,
In terror and dismay.

Amaz’d they saw *Britannia’s* sons
Destruction deal from all their guns,
Their conquering shouts resound.
While vanquish’d *Gallia’s* hapless slaves,
Sunk to their deaths in briny graves,
Beneath the deep profound.

I was told, that the following circumstance

The winds return'd, and told their chief,
That *France* was ruin'd past relief,
And *Hawke* triumphant rode.
'*Hawke!*' *Neptune* cry'd, ' why who is he?
Who thus usurps my power at sea,
And dares defy a god ?'

The winds reply'd, ' In distant lands
There lives a king, who *Hawke* commands,
Who scorns all foreign force!
And when his floating castles roll,
From sea to sea, from pole to pole,
Great *Hawke* directs their course.

And when his winged bullets fly,
To punish fraud and perfidy,
And scourge a guilty land :
Then gallant *Hawke* serenely great,
Though death and horror round him wait,
Fulfil the dread command.'

Neptune with wonder heard the story,
Of *George's* power and *Britain's* glory,
Which time shall ne'er subdue.
Boscawen's deeds and *Saunders' fame*,
Join'd with brave *Wolfe's* immortal name,
And cry'd, ' Can this be true ?

A King! he needs must be a God,
Who has such heroes at his nod,
To govern earth and sea :
I yield my trident and my crown,
A tribute due to such renown,
Great *George* shall rule for me.'

gave rise to placing the figure in this position : Upon the defeat of the French fleet, commanded by CONFLANS, in the year 1759, the City of CORK ordered a statue to be cast of the English Admiral HAWKE ; but on its completion, some objections were made to the expence by the citizens ; upon which the noble INCHQUIN said, “ that he would pay for it,” which he did ; and, as a rebuke, placed the Admiral’s figure on a pedestal, with his back turned towards the ungrateful city. Mr. O’BRIEN, the present inhabitant of the place, and who, on the death of the MARQUIS OF THOMOND, succeeds to the Earldom of INCHQUIN, told me a most singular anecdote relating to this same statue, and which, in a less enlightened age than the present, might have been considered as ominous ; “ that the Admiral’s right arm, which grasped a sword, fell off on the very day that the French landed on the coast of IRELAND, at BANTRY BAY*.”

* Friday 18 May 1759, Admiral *Hawke* sailed with the grand fleet under his command from *Portsmouth*. In the month of November he was obliged to put into *Plymouth*, having been driven off his station before *Brest* by a hard gale of wind. On the 20th instant, the engagement took place between him and *Conflans*, and victory decided in favour of the English. In February, 1760, being thanked by the House of Commons, he thus gallantly replied, “ I own myself greatly at a loss, as to the proper manner of acknowledging the great honour

The luxuriance of the evergreens at Ros-TYNNAN, bespeaks the mildness of the climate. Many judicious alterations and improvements are at this time carrying on, both in the house and grounds.

The BISHOP OF CLOYNE's carriage conveyed me from hence to his episcopal residence, distant about two miles. In my way, I passed by CASTLE MARY, the seat of the LONGFIELD family; where there is a druidical monument thus described by SMITH in his *History of Cork*, p. 140.

“ This altar consists of a large stone 15 feet long, and 8 in breadth, of a rough irregular figure, approaching to an oval form. The highest part of it is nine feet from the ground; it is supported by three other great stones. Adjoining to it is a large round flagstone or table, which was probably used for cutting up the victims for sacrifice.” I felt much mortified in not having seen this relic of antiquity, owing to my want of previous information as to its situation.

conferred upon me by this august house, in their distinguished approbation of my conduct on the 20th of November last. In doing my utmost, I only did the duty I owed my King and Country, which ever has been, and shall be, my greatest ambition to perform faithfully and honestly to the best of my ability.” In March, 1760, the freedom of the City of CORK was presented to him in a golden box.

The town of CLOYNE, with its round tower*, embosomed in wood, appears to great advantage from an eminence to the north east, which commands also a good view of CORK Harbour on one side, with BALICOTTON Bay and the ocean on the other. The Cathedral Church is a plain building, neatly kept, and without any turret or steeple. It is neither remarkable for any ancient architectural decorations, nor sepulchral monuments. Its choir, repaired by Bishop AGAR, in 1776†, is a mixture of Gothic and Italian architecture. The eastern window is rich, and so like the one in the Abbey of KILMALLOCK, that they appear as if cast in the same mould: the western window was formed by three narrow pointed arches, which from

* This round tower is situated in the street of the town, and at a short distance from the western front of the church; but as I purpose collecting all the information I can respecting these singular buildings under one head, I shall say no more of this tower at present.

† In erecting the present cross wall, at the entrance of the choir, in 1776; as the workmen dug deep in the nave to lay the foundation, they discovered a row of graves, of a singular construction, consisting of brick cells exactly suited to the size and shape of the body contained in each, and one of them ended at the shoulders, nor were any of the skull bones to be found with the body. It is therefore not improbable, that the head of the owner may have been fixed on Cork gates in the times of turbulence; as they appear, from the print given us of that city, in the *Pacata Hibernia*, to be full of these trophies. Cloyne MSS.

their resemblance to that instrument, have been called *lancet*. The window of the southern transept appears also to have been formed of five similar arches. The tombstones are very numerous in the cemetery, owing to the attachment which even the catholics still bear throughout Ireland, to these ancient churches.

In the eastern part of the churchyard, which is large and well planted*, the ruins still remain of a small edifice, known by the name of Saint COLMAN's Chapel; which was probably one of those stone oratories, or early churches, of which specimens are still to be seen at KILLALOE, and St. DOULOUGHs, near DUBLIN. The length of it is 30 feet in the clear; its breadth 19; and it stands east and west.

Original and authentic historical information is with such difficulty procured in Ireland, that I need make no apology to my readers for inserting the following account of CLOYNE, which was given me by my friend the bishop of that diocese. Mr. ARCHDALE very justly and feelingly observes, that, "involved in darkness and obscurity, in vain we search for the origin of our religious foundations. The improbabilities and fictions of monkish legends, are often our only evidences, and we are frequently oblig-

* These trees are supposed to have been planted by *Bishop Maule*, in 1730.

ed to adopt the palpable anachronisms of such writings, in the place of authentic documents and chronological certainty."

The town of CLOYNE is situated on a small limestone eminence, gently rising in the midst of the valley, through which there might once have been a communication from Cork Harbour to the sea; and this eminence might have been an island surrounded by water, and afterwards on the water partially drying up, by a deep bog, and at present by rich, and in general, well improved meadows, to which the plantations about the church and see house, with the round tower, appearing every where above them, give a good effect. On this spot Saint COLMAN, before the year 600, is supposed to have founded his church; and the security of it must have received no small addition from the circumstance of a cave, which is on the most elevated part of it, extending in various branches under ground to a great distance. In those unsettled and barbarous ages, caves of this sort were resorted to by the natives, on the first appearance of an enemy, and the invaders seldom being able to make a long stay, the wives and children of the peasants, and perhaps even their cattle, would remain in tolerable safety till the country could assemble in their defence. It is

certain, that places of refuge of this sort, were looked upon as of so much necessity, that in some of the HEBRIDES, we find artificial caves constructed for the purpose; and when nature had provided one so deep and roomy as this, the rude inhabitants of the times, would as naturally graze their flocks, and build their huts in its neighbourhood, as in latter days, they raised their cottages under the shelter of a Norman castle. This idea will also receive confirmation from the name of the town, *Cluaine*, signifying a cave in the Irish language."

This cave is in a field now called the Rock MEADOW, forming a part of the Bishop's demesne, a little east of his garden wall; and though having been long neglected, and the drains from it choked up, it is generally full of water in winter; yet there is a large arched passage running some hundred yards, and still traversed every dry summer, to another mouth in the shrubbery, north of it. A third, but smaller opening, is also visible in the high ground above the pond; a fourth, near the road to the commons, and these, or similar entrances, being known to the first inhabitants, gave the Irish name to the whole of this land (which since the enclosure is preserved in the small field adjoining it) of Mo-

NELUSKY, or the *Field of Caverns*. The ancient names of the neighbouring fields and grounds, speak the savageness of this place in former times. KNOC NA MADUC, is the *Hill of the Grey Dog, or Wolf*. PARK NA DRISLIG, the *Field of Briars*. MONE AR ANISKY, the *Meadow of the wild Boars, &c. &c.*

FROM CLOYNE TO YOUGHAL, LIS-
MORE, FERMOY, MALLOW, CHARLE-
VILLE, TIPPERARY, CASHEL, KIL-
DARE, AND DUBLIN.

MONDAY 28 JULY. The neighbourhood of CLOYNE not affording me a supply of post horses, the Bishop obligingly forwarded me to YOUGHAL, XII MILES. Open champaign country and well cultivated: enclosures small, soil apparently very rich. Passed through the demesne of Lord SHANNON, which is kept with greater neatness than any I have yet seen during my tour. The mansion is a large white house, with a pool of fine water on one side of it, and a ruined castle totally enveloped in ivy near it. The Village of CASTLE MARTYR*, with

* *Castle Martyr*, formerly *Bally Martyr*, was the seat of a branch of the *Fitz-Gerulds*, called *Seneschals of Imokilly*, A.D. 1420, 9th *Henry V.* *James, Earl of Desmond* was constituted *Seneschal* of the Baronies of *Imokilly*, *Inchiquin*, and the town of *Youghal*, during life, by *James, Earl of Ormond*, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. From this *Earl of Desmond*, the branch of the *Fitz-Gerulds* had this title. In the year 1663, *Castle Martyr*

its neat whitened houses adjoins the nobleman's seat. Pass through the village of KILLEAGH, and catch a sight of the sea, with a rich valley on the right leading to it. The descent to YOUGHAL is rather steep, commanding a pleasing view of the BLACKWATER. Stopped at CAMPBELL'S Hotel in the principal street. The road from CLOYNE is rough in a few parts, but on the whole tolerably good.

* The Parish Church at YOUGHAL deserves

Martyr was incorporated by the interest of the first *Earl of Orrery*, who erected it into a borough, with the nomination of the chief magistrate, recorder, town-clerk, &c. to the Earl and his heirs for ever, and with a privilege of sending two members to parliament.

Smith's Cork, vol. i. page 125.

* The origin of this monastic building being rather singular, I shall transcribe the account of it from Mr. *Archdale's Monasticon*, p. 80. A monastery was founded at *Youghal*, for Franciscans, in the year 1224, by *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, who, it is said, erected this house on the following occasion. Being about to build a castle in the town, and the workmen who were digging the foundation, on the eve of some festival, requesting a piece of money, to drink his health, he directed his eldest son to give it, who, instead of obeying, abused the said workmen, at which *Maurice* was so concerned, that he altered his design, and changed the castle into an abbey. The founder was Lord Justice of Ireland, in the years 1229 and 1232; after which, he retired to this monastery, where he took on him the habit of *St. Francis*; and dying the 8th of May, 1257, was interred there in the habit of his order. This was the earliest foundation in Ireland for the Order of *St. Francis*. *Thomas*, the second son of the

notice. On entering the gates of the churchyard, a magnificent window, richly decorated with tracery work, suddenly meets the eye: but before I describe the *exterior* of this building, I shall make some remarks on the *interior* parts of it. The nave of the church has six pointed arches, supported on pilasters, with two transepts, and two side aisles. The southern transept forms a chapel, belonging to the DEVONSHIRE family. "According to SMITH, vol. i. p. 111. this south wing was formerly called the Chantry of our blessed Saviour. It was purchased from the mayor and corporation of YOUGHAL, by the EARL of CORK, March 29, 1606, by which deed, he was not to molest the ancient burials in this place. He repaired the chapel, and in his lifetime, erected an handsome monument for his family, according to the taste of those times, in marble and alabaster." This nobleman is here represented in a recumbent posture, under an arched recess, leaning on his left arm, habited in long robes, and with a ruff round his neck: on each side is a female figure kneeling under a niche, supported by two Ionic pillars. Underneath the Earl's effigy, are small representations of his nume-

founder, completed the building at his own expence, and dying on the 26th May, A. D. 1260, was interred here; as were several other noblemen of the house of *Desmond*.

rous progeny ; and above it, is the effigy of his mother, leaning her left arm on a bible, and supporting her head. This tomb, which is painted, and in the Italian style of architecture, is in a very bad state of preservation *. In the same chapel are the rudely sculptured effigies of RICHARD BENNET, and ALIS BARRY, his wife, the last of whom, in the annexed inscription, is said to have been the first foundress of it, which being demolished in the time of the rebellion, and their tomb defaced, was reedified by RICHARD, Lord BOYLE, Baron of YOUGHAL, who, to revive their memory, repaired this tomb, and had their figures cut in stone, placed thereon in the year 1619.

In the northern transept there is an ancient effigy in stone, apparently of an ecclesiastic, resting his head upon a cushion, with a bird in his hands, and a lion at his feet. The sexton's wife, who acted as my *Cicerone*, told me, that there was a similar figure immured under the staircase leading to the music gallery : there is also a slab tomb, decorated with a flowery cross, bearing date 1557 ; and a monument to the UNIAK family, 1761. In the same transept is an old Gothic font, disfigured by gaudy paint-

* A full description of this tomb, and its inscriptions is given in *Smith's History of Cork*, vol. i. p. 111.

ing. The church is well pewed, and neatly kept.

Let us now consider the *exterior* part of this building. The western doorway is of the *pointed Order*; and over it is a small trefoil niche. The original windows that adorned this front are stopped up, and supplied by one of a more modern date. They were in three divisions, and of the lancet shape. A little to the north, but almost attached to the church, is a large square tower, which is now made use of as a belfry : a peculiarity (except in the instance of the round towers,) which I have not as yet met with, nor am able to account for. The outside windows of the northern transept have also given way to those of a more modern date, and have been closed up : they were of the lancet form, and four in number *. The outside windows of the southern transept have shared the same fate : they differ materially in design from the opposite transept, being composed of two divisions, with three pointed windows in each. But the part of this building that will most attract the antiquary's notice, is that which is now in ruins, and made use of as a place of bu-

* This division of arches is rather uncommon ; nor do I recollect having seen instances of the number *four* being applied to windows ; *three* and *five* occur the most frequently.

rial. The eastern window surpasses in good workmanship any I have seen in IRELAND: its tracery, surmounted by a Catharine-wheel ornament, is very rich. On the north side of this window is a beautiful sepulchral niche, the back and sides of which are decorated with trefoil compartments. On the surface of the wall above it, is an inscription in ancient characters,

HIC IACET FLEMING.

I am not quite clear about the christian name omitted, but it appears to me to have been GULIELMVS. On the south side of this eastern window (under which stood the altar) are three tall, and one small arch; the latter being nearest to the altar. I have before taken notice of similar arches at ADAIR, &c. which I suppose to have been *confessionals* in the times of popery. The distribution of the windows on the outside of this ruined part of the church, is very irregular, but they all partake of the lancet form. Between the eastern end of the church, and the entrance to the churchyard, I observed the tombstone of DANIEL ADAMS, who died at the advanced age of one hundred and twenty-six years.

The town of YOUGHAL is situated under the eastern declivity of a steep hill, and was formerly flanked by a high wall and turrets extending along its summit, of which some mutilated fragments still remain. It consists chiefly of one

long street running north and south, is bounded by the River BLACKWATER on the east, and by high ground on the west : it is distant about a mile from the sea, and is a bustling, cheerful town, being much resorted to during the summer months, as a bathing place. The public rooms on the mall are pleasantly situated near the banks of the river. There is also a neat little theatre at the back of CAMPBELL'S Hotel*. It is said, that the potatoe plant was first introduced into Ireland at this place, by SIR WALTER RALEIGH, who, together with tobacco, brought it from VIRGINIA; and that the person who planted it, imagining that the apples which grow upon the stalk, were the part to be used, gathered them; but not liking their taste, neglected the roots, till the ground being dug afterwards to sow some other grain,

* This playhouse was built by the landlord of the hotel, and is at the end of his stable yard. I found both house and players better than I could have expected in so small a town. The orchestra consisted of *two fiddlers*, who commenced the night's entertainment with the popular air of *God save the King*. The gods afterwards ordered their own favourite airs to be played; amongst which the *Grinder* and *Black Joke*, were received with great applause. My antiquated female *Cicerone* of the morning (the Sexton's wife) performed the office of *Orange Girl*, and the Clerk that of manager of the theatre.

Campbell's Hotel is esteemed the best inn at *Youghal*, but the *York Hotel*, commanding a view of the *Blackwater*, is preferable in point of situation. Each house has chaises and post horses.

the potatoes were discovered therein, and to the great surprise of the planter, vastly increased. From such a circumstance, this valuable root, which in modern times affords almost the sole sustenance of the poor in IRELAND, took possession of the soil, and has ever since maintained its popularity.

TUESDAY 29th JULY. Having been strongly recommended to visit the BLACKWATER*, I hired a boat with four men, and taking advantage of the tide, rowed up the river to CAPPOQUIN and LISMORE; the distance exceeds twenty miles. This river, which near YOUGHAL expands its waters into a spacious bason, begins at about the distance of two miles to contract its channel, and assume the character of a river instead of an æstuary. Several vessels lay dry upon the shore, awaiting the return of tide to convey them, with their cargoes of sea sand, to CAPPOQUIN. This sand is supposed to possess a very fertilizing quality, and is made use

* The head of this river is in a swampy bog, near the Island of Kerry, from whence it proceeds to *Blackwater Bridge*, (where it is still but a small stream) and then to *Cullin*, about six miles; thence to *Bellydawly*, *Drishane*, and so easterly to *Mallow*, where there is a fair stone bridge over it; it then proceeds to *Fermoy*, where it has a second bridge, and thus flows on, due easterly, to the County of *Waterford*. *Smith's Cork*, vol. ii. p. 263, where may be found an account of its contributory streams.

of for manure. Some ruins appear on an eminence to the left, which I imagine to be those of KINCREW, noted in DR. BEAUFORT'S map, and which appertained to the *Knights of St. John of Jerusalem*. At the first bend of the river, the Castle of TEMPLE MICHAEL attracts the eye; a modern house, belonging to Mr. SMITH, is attached to it, and very happily fills up the centre compartment of a very pleasing landscape. Advancing a little further, a large mansion house belonging to a gentleman of the same name and family, appears on the right; and a bold projecting island*, well wooded, and adorned with monastic ruins, occupies the middle of the picture: the *tout ensemble* forms a rich view, and composes well. Observe, on looking back, the contrast; on one side simple nature; rocks clothed only with fern rising above the surface of the river; on the other

* This island was anciently called *Dar-Inis*, or the Island of *St. Molanfide*, now *Molana*. Upon it are the remains of an Abbey of Regular Canons, founded in the sixth century by that Saint, who was the first Abbot. In this abbey, *Raymond le Gros*, the English general, who, with *Strongbow*, contributed so much to the reduction of Ireland, is said to have been buried.

Smith's Waterford, p. 43.

The Island of *Molana* is mentioned by *Archdale*, p. 695, and a series of its abbots from 506 to 1397. On the suppression of the monastery, Queen *Elizabeth* granted its possessions to Sir *Walter Raleigh*, who assigned them to the *Earl of Cork*.

side, those rocks richly decorated with wood, and works of art. A castle, abbey, two mansion houses, a ferry*, and numerous salmon weirs, tend to animate the scenery; the left banks of the river are finely indented and wooded. This place is called BALLINATRAY. Two modes of fishing are adopted for taking salmon in the rivers of the south of Ireland, which are thus described by Mr. TIGHE, in his *Statistical Survey of Kilkenny*. "The fishing of the rivers is free by custom to the inhabitants of the shores. The country people catch salmon with a snap net, suspended between two cots, which are small boats, flat bottomed, narrow, equal at both ends, and governed by paddles; two men are in each boat, one of whom conducts it; and when the fishers feel the net drawn, the boats are closed immediately †."

The weirs on the BLACKWATER are not (like those at LIMERICK and many other places) flood weirs, extending across the whole river, but are fished only during the latter half of the ebb. The wings are staked and wattled, extend through that part of the river where there is least current, so as not to impede the navigation, and

* This ferry is found very useful, when by reason of floods and storms, that of *Youghal* cannot be crossed in safety.

† The curious boats, called coracles, as well as nets, are used in a similar way on the Welsh rivers.

are only as high as half the flood water, where they meet in an angle ; the fisherman has a seat elevated upon four framed posts, where he holds the net, and on feeling the salmon strike, collects his net, and draws him into his boat.

The next reach of the river presents a rich outline of wood on the left, and hills covered with fern on the right, closed by others still more lofty at a distance ; the monastic remains on the Island of MOLANA forming a pleasing object each way. In the next bend, the æstuary widens : see CLASHMORE woods on the right ; cultivated lands on each side. The channel again contracts itself, and the surface of the waters is much enlivened by numerous cots employed in catching salmon. A ruined fortress (which my boatmen told me bore the name of STRANCALLY*) fills up the centre of the scenery. It is placed on a boldly projecting rock, and has an outwork. From whichever

* Mr. Grose, in his *Antiquities of Ireland*, gives a view of this castle, and says, that it was formerly used by an *Earl of Desmond*, as a prison. He adds, " there is an hole cut through the rock, in the manner of a portcullis, down which he cast the dead bodies ; and that a person, who had the good fortune to escape from this dismal prison, related to government the horrible practices committed there, who ordered both the cave and castle to be demolished. The cave is laid open, and half the castle blown up."

Grose's Ant. of Ireland, vol. ii. p. 37.

side you view it, either on sailing towards it, or on retiring from it, it is a pleasing and imposing object. The shores of the BLACKWATER now become less cultivated; wilder but not wooded; and the loss of STRANCALLY is to be regretted. A long range of well wooded shore now presents itself on the left, with DRUMORE Ferry, and vessels lying at anchor. From the inattention of its owner, a vessel slipped its anchorage here, and sunk. This place, where my boatmen applied for some refreshment, is estimated to be eight miles from YOUGHAL. The fine line of wood is succeeded by high sedgy banks on the left, between which the River BRIDE discharges its waters into the BLACKWATER. See HEADBOROUGH upon an eminence to the left; a seat of the SMITH family. On coasting along these uninteresting banks, the eye is suddenly and very agreeably relieved by a distant view of DRUMANA, the seat of the late EARL of GRANDISON*. The mansion house, built upon an eminence, and surrounded by luxu-

* The house was built on the foundation of an ancient castle, that was formerly the chief seat of the *Fitz Gerald*s of the *Desmoyes*, who were descended from *Sir Gerald*, second son to *James*, the seventh *Earl of Desmond*, whose family have been a long time settled here. *John*, *Earl of Grandison*, enjoyed this estate in right of his mother, *Catharine Fitz Gerald*, the only remaining heir of that family. It is very boldly situated on a rock over

riant woods, appears full in view; and the eye anticipates the pleasure it expects to derive from the contracted appearance of the channel through which the river seems to wind its course. These hopes, on a nearer view, are not disap-

the *Blackwater*: the castle, with all its furniture, being burnt down by the Irish, the present house was erected.

Smith's Waterford, p. 53.

The *Desii* mentioned in the above note were a very ancient and powerful clan, from whom the Barony of *Desies* took its name. As their history is somewhat singular, I shall insert the account given of them by *Smith*, in his *History of Waterford*, p. 3. "They were originally planted in *Meath*, and possessed a large tract of country near *Taragh*, called *Desie-Temragh*. From the remains of this family, the Barony of *Desie*, in the County of *Meath*, took its name. They drew their descent from *Fiachadh Suidhe*, eldest son to *Fedlimid* the Lawgiver, who was Supreme Monarch of *Ireland*, from the year 164 to the year 174. *Fiachadh* died in the lifetime of his father, and though he left issue, the crown descended in the line of his younger brother, to *Cormac McArt*, who began his reign in 254. Between him and *Aongus*, grandson to *Fiachadh*, who resented his exclusion from the monarchy, several severe battles were fought, and at length this prince, with his brothers and associates, the *Desii*, were driven into *Munster*, where, either by force of arms or concession, they settled themselves, and became inhabitants of that tract of country, which extended from the River *Suire* to the sea, and from *Lismore* to *Credan-head*, comprehending in a manner all that territory, since called the County of *Waterford*. And they gave it the name of *Desie*, in memory of their settlements of the same name in *Meath*; and from this time, *Desie* in *Meath*, and *Desie* in *Munster*, were called *North and South Desie*; and the latter also bore the name, in Irish, of *Nan Desie*.

pointed; for, on approaching the demesne, the channel becomes very confined; and the mansion house rises perpendicularly from a bold rock completely covered with trees*. The character of the next bend of the river is richness; cultivated lands, decked with trees, and distant mountains. The back front of DRUMANA House presents itself in a very different point of view, and a large extent of well wooded hill adds much to the general beauty of the retrospect. See on the left TURIN, a seat of the MUSGRAVE family, where a modern house is apparently attached to an old castle. A grand perpendicular mass of limestone rock attracts the eye on the right.

The town of CAPPOQUIN now opens with the seat of Mr. KANE above it; a finely wooded dingle in front, backed by lofty mountains. See a ruined church on the left; flat islands, planted with willows. Quarries of limestone rock, one fine mass of which bounds the river on the left. The Village of CAPPOQUIN is situated on the right, which, combined with Mr. KANE's well wooded seat, and a pointed mountain beyond it, form a charming *coup d'œil*. Pass under a wooden bridge, where the river

* Though death has deprived *Drumana* of its noble proprietor, this neglected, but much to be admired spot, is frequently visited by water parties from *Youghal*, &c.

makes a sudden bend to the left: low banks on that side; extensive woods on the right. The river now winds its course within a channel still more contracted, (under the demesne of **SALTBRIDGE**, inhabited by the **CHEARNLEY** family, but formerly the seat of the **MUSGRAVES**) with fine trees feathering down to the water's edge, though the harmonious colouring of these luxuriant woods is much injured by the chilling and discordant tints of the Scotch fir. On looking back, the Village of **CAPPOQUIN** appears in a very favourable point of view; a fine theatre of wood, and a picturesque mass of rock on the right. We now come within sight of **LISMORE** and its distant woods; the line of bank which bounds the river on the left, is flat and sedgy; that on the right is good, and partially wooded. See an earthen work on an eminence to the left. Our boat being impeded in its further progress up the river by a lock, I took leave of it, and walked to **LISMORE**; distant about a mile and a half.

Though the scenery on the **BLACKWATER**, cannot by any means be compared with that on many of our rivers and æstuaries in **ENGLAND**: either with the **WYE**, in **HEREFORDSHIRE**, with the **DART** in **DEVONSHIRE**, or the **TAMAR** in **CORNWAL**; I am inclined to think it cannot for the long continuance of twenty miles

be surpassed, or even rivalled, by any other stream in IRELAND. It affords some good subjects for the portfolio, of which the most striking and best adapted to the pencil, are those at BALINATRAY, STRANKALLY, and DRUMANA; but all must yield to LISMORE.

Various names as well as derivations have been given to LISMORE. Its modern appellation seems to have been taken from the fortification before mentioned, standing a little to the east of the town, and known by the name of ROUND HILL; *Lis*, in the Irish language, signifying a fort, and *mor*, *great*. It bore anciently the name of DUNSGINNE, from *Dun*, a fort or place situated on an eminence, and *sgein*, a flight, which seems to allude to the flight of ST. CARTHAGH to this place, before which it was named MAGH-SGIATH, or the *Field of the Shield**. ST. CARTHAGH was founder and abbot of the famous Abbey of RATHENY in WEST-MEATH, where he is said to have governed 867

* In these derivations we may trace a great resemblance between the *Irish* and *British* languages. *Llys-mawr*, in *Welsh*, would signify the *great court*, or *palace*. *Dinas*, in *Welsh*, means a fort, of which the *Irish*, *Dun*, and the *Latin*, *Dunum*, added to the names of many Roman towns, such as *Sorbiodunum* (Salisbury) *Camalodunum* (Colchester) &c. &c. are certainly corruptions.

Ysgain, in *Welsh*, signifies a *sprinkling*, or *scattering*. *Sgúyd* also in *British* implies a *Shield*.

monks, for the space of forty years. The annals of INNISFALLEN record, that A. D. 631, he was driven by King BLATHMAC, out of RATHENY, and the same year founded the Abbey of LISMORE; as also a school or university, which was famous for its numerous professors of the true philosophy, and stood in a higher degree of reputation than any other seminary in IRELAND*. The *Historian of Waterford*, says, "that in his time a traveller would hardly take this town to have been an university, a bishop's see, and much less a city; instead of its ancient lustre, the cathedral, the castle, and a few tolerable houses, intermixed with cabins, are all that now appear †."

Its appearance has not improved since the days of that author; and I question if the castle has not suffered from the trowel of innovation. SMITH has given the following account of its foundation, and various vicissitudes.

* Concerning the ancient fame of *Lismore*, a writer of the *Life of St. Carthagh*, has these words: " *Lismore* is a famous and holy city, half of which is an asylum, into which no woman dares enter; but it is full of cells and holy monasteries: and religious men, in great numbers, abide there; and thither holy men flock together from all parts of *Ireland*, and not only from *Ireland*, but also from *England* and *Britain*, being desirous to move from thence to Christ; and now the city is built upon the banks of a river, formerly called the *Nem*, but now *Aconmore*, that is the great river in the territory of the *Nan-Desi*, or *Desies*." *Smith's Waterford*, p. 27.

† *Smith's Waterford*, p. 28.

“ The Castle of LISMORE is said to have been built by KING JOHN, and demolished by the Irish, in 1185, who took it by surprise. Being rebuilt, it was for many years the residence of the bishops, till MILER MAGRATH, Archbishop of CASHEL, and bishop of this see, some time before his resignation, in 1589, by the consent of the Dean and Chapter, granted to SIR WALTER RALEIGH, the Manor of LISMORE, and other lands, at the yearly rent of £13. 6s. 8d. This castle soon afterwards fell into the hands of SIR RICHARD BOYLE, who purchased all SIR WALTER’S lands. He beautified the whole, and added many buildings to it, most of which were burnt down during the Irish rebellion; at the breaking out whereof, it was closely besieged by 5000 Irish, commanded by SIR RICHARD BELING, and was bravely defended by the young LORD BROGHILL, third son to the EARL OF CORK, who, by his conduct and bravery, obliged the Irish to raise the siege*. In an apartment of this castle [which is now the property of the DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE] the celebrated philosopher, ROBERT BOYLE, was born.

This castle is situated on a rock, rising many

* Smith’s Waterford, p. 31. Many interesting particulars of this brave young nobleman, may be collected from “*Budgell’s Memoirs of the Boyle Family*,” 8vo. 1732.

feet perpendicular from the River BLACKWATER; and feathered with rich wood from its summit to the water's edge: in every point of view it presents itself as a bold and imposing object, and affords the best subject for the pencil of any building I have yet seen during my tour: a handsome stone bridge, built by the DUKE of DEVONSHIRE, contributes much to the general effect of this pleasing landscape. The ruins are both shapeless and graceless, bearing less the appearance of a castle, than of an antiquated mansion house. I have seen no situation where the want of the *former* is more to be regretted by the artist. At a short distance from the castle, up the river, is a salmon weir, which, like the generality of those in IRELAND, is very productive.

The parish church, which in former times could have boasted of its episcopal honours, is seated on a hill opposite the castle, and as well as the town and castle, has suffered many vicissitudes. In the years 812 and 820, the town was pillaged and spoiled: in 831 it was again sacked by the Danes, who in 833 repeated their ravages, and depopulated the town.

In the year 913, the same people plundered the abbey, and in 915 renewed their depredations. In 978, the town and church were plundered by the OSSORIANS; and in 1095, the former was destroyed by an accidental fire. In

1116 the town and abbey were again destroyed by a general conflagration; and in 1138, they suffered the same disastrous calamity. In 1157, LISMORE again fell a sacrifice to fire. In 1178, it was plundered and set on fire by the English forces: and to complete the almost unparalleled ill fortune of this city, an accidental fire, in 1207, wholly consumed it, together with its churches. Such is the account transmitted to us by Mr. ARCHDALE, in his *Monasticon*: who has also given a series of its bishops from the year 588 to 1207.

From the few remains that at present exist of its ancient workmanship, we may perceive that it was executed in a good style of architecture. The eastern window was composed of three narrow compartments, half of which are now cut off by an *Italian* altar. On the south side of the altar are three other pointed windows; and two on the northern side, with a continuation of three more in the same uniform style. The choir bears the external appearance of a cathedral, in its throne, stalls, and pulpit; I say, the appearance only; as it was annexed to the See of WATERFORD in the year 1363, so that the name only of its former dignity now remains, "*Stat nominis umbra.*" It has a nave, two transepts, and a choir: one large round arch, and two pointed ones, separate the nave from the choir, which has an organ. It con-

tains some neat and simple tablets, with appropriate inscriptions to the memory of the MUSGRAVE and CHEARNLEY families, of SALTBRIDGE; but I could discover only one antique tombstone, which forms part of the pavement in the nave, and appears to commemorate some bishop. The stone is decorated with a flowery cross, which divides it into two compartments. On the left side, is the figure of a bishop praying: on the opposite side, our Saviour bound with cords; the motto of *Ecce Homo* at his head, and *INRI.* at his feet: above each of the figures is an escutcheon of arms*. This formed the table of the tomb, and two other stones, corresponding in size, and placed in the pavement alongside it, formed the two sides of the tomb. The one represents six of the Apostles in a row, with three saints, of which I could only decypher the names of ST. CATHARINE and ST. PATRICK. The other represents the rest of the Apostles, with our Saviour on the cross, and a figure on each side of him. The whole are sculptured in bas relief, on a blue stone: the names of the Apostles and Saints are affixed to each; and the edge of the tombstone bears an inscription in old characters, but sufficiently perfect to be decyphered.

* These arms would ascertain to whose memory this tomb was erected, as well as its date.

The churchyard is thickly shaded with trees, and like the generality of those in IRELAND, crowded with gravestones, and badly taken care of.

A canal of communication has been cut from the river to some large storehouses, lately erected by the DUKE of DEVONSHIRE; but hitherto little use has been made of either. A new inn also has been built by the same noble proprietor, but on too large a scale for a town where there is no trade, and but little travelling. Opposite to it is a handsome building, which serves the different purposes of sessions, market house, and gaol.

WEDNESDAY 30th JULY. From LISMORE to FERMOY XV MILES, and to MALLOW XV more. A rich country, cultivated high up the hills. Pass by CASTLE RICHARD on the right, and descend to the banks of the BLACKWATER, about six miles from FERMOY: See MACOLLOP, with a ruined castle in the vale near the river, backed by fine orchards*. Skirt the vale for some time; strong crops of corn, neglected pastures: the banks of the river appear flat and uninteresting. Before I reached FERMOY, I observed two ruined castles on the right, which

* I find that this castle belonged formerly to the powerful family of the *Earls of Desmond*, one of whom, *James*, the *Seventh Earl*, died there in 1462.

I suppose are those of CARRICKABRICK and LICLASH, mentioned in the *Iter*, page 361.

The town of FERMOY has undergone considerable alterations and improvements, since Mr. SMITH wrote his *History of Cork*. A magnificent pile of building on a hill adjoining the town, a spacious and commodious inn*, a square and streets have been added, all the work of one spirited individual, Mr. ANDERSON. This town is seated on the banks of the River BLACKWATER, over which there is a bridge of 13 arches; built (according to Mr. SMITH) in the year 1689, at the expense of £7500.

Leaving FERMOY, the river again makes its appearance, flowing in a serpentine course on the left, beneath the elevated terrace of the road. CASTLE HYDE, the seat of a family of the same name†; well wooded, well kept, and

* The landlord of this inn (*Shehan*) has printed the prices he charges for post horses to their different stages: an useful hint to travellers in a country where all charges in this line are made *ad libitum*, and are not regulated by the mile, but by the job.

† A gentleman of this family, *Sir Arthur Hyde*, was made a Knight Banneret, by *Queen Elizabeth*, for his gallant behaviour, and raising a regiment in England, at the time of the invasion by the *Invincible Armada*. Her majesty afterwards granted him near 6000 acres of land in this county, which came to the crown by the attainder of *Gerald, Earl of Desmond*.

Smith's Cork, vol. i. p. 348.

well *hidden* from the eye of the passenger by a high wall, that surrounds the demesne*. On looking back, see the ruins of a square tower, which I imagine to be CREG Castle, built by the ROCHEs; a circular earthen work, with a *val-lum* and fosse close to the road on the right; a ruined church, with a vault on the same side, and a rich vale with wood on the left.

The village of BALLYHOOLY, on the BLACK-WATER, would have afforded some good subjects for my pencil, but a violent and incessant rain confined me to my carriage. Here are the remains of a castle, which belonged formerly to the ROCHE family, and on their forfeiture, came to SIR RICHARD ALDORTH. Crossed the River AWBEG, leaving CASTLE-TOWN ROCHE at a little distance to the right†. En-

* My friends who had pointed out to me this tour on the *Blackwater*, had unfortunately forgotten to apprize me of these tremendous barricadoes, and that the shores of the river could only be seen by an *equestrian* or *pedestrian* traveller.

Mr. *Smith* mentions a curious Druidical monument or cromlech, called *Labacally*, on the road from *Fermoy* to *Glanworth*, and a mile from the latter, due east. *Vol ii. page 416.*

† By the mistake of my postillion, I avoided this village, which has been represented as situated in a deep and picturesque glen, and bearing the remains of an ancient castle, belonging to the *Roches, Lords of Fermoy*, which they forfeited: of which transaction, Mr. *Smith* gives the following account: "This family was attainted and outlawed, for being concerned in the Irish rebel-

closures with hedges of furze, and miserable cottages ; orchards still continue. Strong crops of wheat. See some ruins on the left ; descend to the BLACKWATER ; fine grove of trees in the vale beneath ; a large gentleman's seat upon high ground across the river, well wooded ; in a field to the right, I observed a circular earthen work ; and in the same field beyond it, I saw (as I thought) some large upright stones ; and another circular work in a field further on. I rested for the night at MALLOW, and found tolerable accommodations at the NEW INN.

I am just interrupted by a busy hum in the streets, an immense crowd following the mournful bier of a departed soldier. Cap, sword, and belt, lying on the coffin. Soldiers with arms reversed. Music playing the 104th psalm ; an

lion of 1641, and lost their estate; though *Maurice, Lord Roche*, who was the forfeiting person, had a regiment in *Flanders*, and gave *King Charles the Second* a considerable part of his pay, during the exile of that prince; for which, and other services, he expected, upon the Restoration, to have his lands restored, and petitioned the king for that purpose, being then in a very poor way ; but that prince did nothing more than allow a small pension to the family. The *Earl of Orrery*, in 1667, recommended this nobleman to the *Duke of Ormond*, saying, " It is a grief to me to see a nobleman of so ancient a family, left without any maintenance ; and being able to do no more than I have done, I could not deny to do for him what I could do, to lament his lamentable state to your grace."

Smith's Cork, vol. i. p. 338.

affecting sight: heard the vollies fired over his grave. Music returns, playing a more cheerful tune.

The town of MALLOW is pleasantly situated on the north banks of the BLACKWATER, over which there is a bridge of several arches: on the same side of the river, and immediately adjoining the town, is the rich and well wooded demesne of the JEPHSON family, in which are considerable ruins of an old castle. SMITH informs us, that its name was CASTLE GAN, or the *Short Castle*, and records the following anecdote connected with its history. In the year 1641-2, Lord MOUNTGARRET marched with the Irish forces to MALLOW. The *south* castle was then committed by its owner, Captain JEPHSON, to the charge of ARTHUR BETTESWORTH; and the *north* castle (the one I am now speaking of) was bravely defended by Lieutenant RICHARD WILLIAMSON, but was at length obliged to capitulate.

After the surrender of SHORT CASTLE, WILLIAMSON went into a public house, with some of his men, and a few of the Irish, to drink; he had not sate long, when an Irish officer entered the room, with another man, who laid down a block, and a large broad sword; which apparatus startling WILLIAMSON, he asked, what they were for? and was answered, "to strike off his and his men's heads:" which was

no sooner spoke, but WILLIAMSON snatched up the sword; with his left hand took hold of the Irish officer by the hair, and drew him to the very walls of the other castle, not far distant, where he gave him some kicks, and letting him go, entered the castle with his men. *Vol. i. p. 326.* MALLOW consists principally of one long street, and is much resorted to by company in the summer months, for the benefit of its medicinal springs, and the enjoyment of its pleasant natural situation.

THURSDAY 31st JULY. From MALLOW to CHARLEVILLE XV MILES. Open country, furze hedges, extensive view, and dreary mountains covered with heath on the right. I passed close to the ruins of BALLYBEG Abbey on the left, surrounded by a miserable village, and presenting nothing interesting in their outline *, though the fragments still remaining seem to indicate a building of some importance. It once possessed a most curious equestrian statue, in brass, of its founder, PHILIP DE BARRI.

At a short distance from hence, and traversed by the public road, is BUTTEVANT, another mean village, but larger than the former. This

* *Philip de Barri* founded a priory here for regular canons, following the rule of *St. Augustin*, and dedicated it to *St. Thomas*, the favourite Saint of that age; he endowed it in the year 1229, in remembrance of which, his equestrian statue in brass was erected in the church.

Archdale, p. 56.

merits the attention of the traveller. Its environs present many ruins, of which those of the abbey are the most conspicuous. Its name is said to have been derived from a word given in a battle fought near this place, by DAVID DE BARRI, who here overthrew the MAC-CARTYS, and cried out "*Boutez en evant*," or *push forward*, which is at present the motto of the BARRYMORE family, who take the title of Viscount from this place. The foundation of the abbey is generally attributed to DAVID DE BARRI, in the reign of KING EDWARD THE FIRST, who lies interred in the choir*. Its inhabitants were conventual Franciscans.

* Mr. Archdale expresses some doubt about the period of the foundation of this abbey, which is generally attributed to *David de Barri*, A. D. 1290. He thinks that an earlier date should be assigned to it, as he finds that *William de Barri*, in the year 1273, granted the whole church of *Cathinduffan* to the Prior of *Buttevant*. He adds, "that some are of opinion, that this house owed its origin to one of the family of *Prendergast*; but the monument of the *Barri's* being in the centre of the choir, confirms to them the honour of this foundation.

William de Barri, the ancestor of this family, was first settled at *Manorbeer* in *Pembrokeshire*. He married *Angharad*, daughter of *Nest*, who was daughter of the illustrious *Rhys ap Gruffyd*, Prince of South Wales, and sister to *Robert Fitz-Stephen*, and *Robert Fitz-Gerald*. She had four sons, one of whom was the well known *Giraldus de Barri*, commonly called *Cambrensis*, or the *Welshman*. *Robert*, the eldest son, accompanied *Fitz-Stephen* into Ireland, in 1169, and was of great service to that chieftain

The remains of this abbey testify its ancient grandeur and good architecture, differing in some particulars from any I have seen during my tour. The round arches, supporting the turret, are particularly elegant, being encircled in their whole outline by taper columns, divided by bands into different compartments: the same style of ornament decorates the windows. In the southern transept, is a handsome trefoil tomb; and both within the walls of the church and its precincts, are many inscriptions, some of which are old. Mr. ARCHDALE says, "that about the middle of the last century, the following inscription was visible on an ancient stone in the wall of the chapter house.

PHILIPPE DE LA CHAPPELLE GIST ICI,
DIEU DE SON ALME AY MERCY.

He also adds, that the walls of this monastery

in the reduction of *Wexford*. If we may credit the account given of him by his brother, in his *Hibernia expugnata*, p. 763, he was a knight of so distinguished and amiable a character, that he was honoured with the title of *Barri Mawr*, or *Barri the Great*: from whom it was continued in the family of *Barrymore*. Being killed at *Lismore*, about the year 1185, his brother *Philip de Barri*, came over with a select body of men, to assist his uncle *Fitz-Stephen*, and *Raymond le Gros*, and to him is attributed the endowment of the *Friary of Ballybeg*, in 1229.

Lodge's Peerage, vol. i. p. 287.

were finely painted in fresco. The area of the church is crowded with tombstones, and thickly strewn with fragments of coffins, bones, and skulls. I have before had occasion to remark this irreligious indecency, and in no place I have seen so little reverence paid to the dead; for here you may see coffins with skeletons exposed to public sight through the apertures of the stone; and coffins taken up unperished, to make room for fresh interments. The scene which presented itself to me, on entering these hallowed walls, struck me most forcibly; it was truly impressive, and all was in character; skulls, bones, and coffins, thick around me; the Sexton digging a fresh grave, and a hoary old man kneeling before the altar, with his rosary and cross in his hand, bewailing the loss of some dear relative, whose grave was at that time preparing to receive him, and whose coffin lay hard by.

Under this abbey was a crypt, which is still accessible from the east, on which side runs a rapid stream. Many good subjects may be here found for the pencil, both within and without the walls of the monastery. On the N. West side of the church, stands a ruined tower, called CULLEN, and said to have been erected by an EARL of DESMOND, who retired thither. Mr. SMITH informs us, that two other churches stood in the same churchyard; the one dedi-

ated to St. BRIDGET, the other to the VIRGIN MARY; and that the whole town seemed formerly to have been an assemblage of churches and religious houses, which being dissolved, the town consequently went, with them, to ruins.

“ The levelled town with weeds lies covered o’er,
The hollow winds through naked temples roar,
Round broken columns clasping ivy twin’d,
O’er heaps of ruins stalk’d the stately hind;
The fox obscene to gaping tombs retires,
And savage howlings fill the sacred quires.”

POPE’s *Windsor Forest*.

The above lines of Mr. POPE have been most appropriately applied to BUTTEVANT; for a more desert and melancholy village cannot be seen, or more fallen from its ancient state of opulence and monastick grandeur. It was called, in ecclesiastical books, BOTHAN; and by the Irish, and our poet SPENSER, KILNEMUL-
EAGH: its precincts were surrounded by a wall and gateways, and it enjoyed the privileges of an ancient corporation.

From the inconveniency attending a chaise and post horses, I could not visit an interesting and classical spot, not far distant from my road, KILCOLMAN, the residence of our poet SPENSER, where he composed his poem of the *Fairy Queen*. As some future traveller, with horses

and leisure at his command, may be desirous of visiting this spot, I shall transcribe the account which Mr. SMITH has given of it in his *History of Cork*, vol. i. p. 333. "Two miles N.W. of DONERAILE, is KILCOLMAN, a ruined castle of the EARLS of DESMOND, but more celebrated for being the residence of the immortal SPENSER, where he composed his divine poem, the *Fairy Queen*. The castle is now almost level to the ground, and was situated on the N. side of a fine lake, in the midst of a vast plain, terminated to the east, by the County of WATERFORD mountains: BALLYHOWRA hills to the north, or, as SPENSER terms them, the *Mountains of Mole*: NAGLE mountains to the south, and the mountains of KERRY to the west. It commanded a view of above half the breadth of IRELAND, and must have been, when the adjacent uplands were wooded, a most pleasant and romantic situation; from whence, no doubt, SPENSER drew several parts of the scenery of his poem.

In July, 1580, ARTHUR, LORD GREY OF WILTON, was nominated to the Lieutenancy of IRELAND, and SPENSER was appointed his secretary. To the interest of this nobleman, and the patronage of LORD LEICESTER and SIR PHILIP SIDNEY, SPENSER probably owed the grant from QUEEN ELIZABETH of above three thousand acres of land in the County of CORK,

out of the forfeited lands of the EARL OF DESMOND*. In this retreat, SPENSER contracted an intimacy with the celebrated SIR WALTER RALEIGH, whom he describes as sitting beside him on the banks of the MULLA, or AUBEG, listening to his musick.

“ And, when he heard the musicke which I made,
He found himselfe full greatly pleas'd at it :
Yet, æmuling my pipe, he tooke in hond
My pipe, before that æmuled of many,
And plaid thereon: (for well that skill he con'd ;)
Himselfe as skillfull in that art as any.”

His Biographer (MR. TODD) tells us, that in the year 1594, he was united in marriage to his ROSALIND, whose beauty and accomplishments he had celebrated in numerous sonnets ; that in 1597, he returned from ENGLAND, with the ex-

* The forfeited estate of this powerful Earl, is said by historians to have exceeded five hundred thousand acres: of which the celebrated *Sir Walter Raleigh*, who by his activity, had greatly contributed to suppress the rebellion of *Desmond*, received a considerable portion amounting to twelve thousand acres.

Todd's Life of Spenser, T. i. p. 52.

Moryson, in his *Itinerary*, says, that the lands of the *Earl of Desmond* amounted, in English measure, to 574628 acres, which, upon his attainder, fell to the crown. Some part was restored to the offenders, and the rest was divided into seignories, granted by letters patent to certain English knights and esquires, who, upon this gift, and the conditions whereunto they were tied, had the common name of *Undertakers*.

pectation of passing the remainder of his days with his family at KILCOLMAN. In September, 1598, he was recommended by Queen ELIZABETH as a fit person to serve the office of Sheriff for the County of CORK; but in the next month, the rebellion of the treacherous TYRONE burst forth with irresistible fury, and occasioned the immediate flight of SPENSER and his family from KILCOLMAN. In the confusion attending this calamity, one of his children appears to have been left behind. The rebels, after carrying off the goods, burnt the house, and this infant in it. SPENSER arrived in ENGLAND, with a heart broken in consequence of these misfortunes, and died in the month of January following. *Todd's Life of Spenser, Tom. 1. p. CXXIX.*

“ O early lost, what tears the river shed!
His drooping swans on ev'ry note expire,
And on his willows hung each muse's lyre.” POPE.

Continuing my journey, I crossed a part of the BALLYHOORA hills, (which from their elevation hardly deserve the name of mountains) where an extensive prospect of uninteresting country, terminated by the GAULTY mountains, presents itself.

CHARLEVILLE. The fracture of a spring confined me to this dull town for the remainder of the day. Its appearance in former times, when honoured with the residence of the EARLS OF

ORRERY, must have been very different*. From Mr. SMITH I shall extract the following account of it: "CHARLEVILLE, before called RATHGOGAN, a corporation erected at the expence and encouragement of ROGER, the first EARL OF ORRERY, Lord President of MUNSTER, who here kept his residential, and adorned the town with a magnificent house†, to which he added noble gardens and a fine park.

This house was burnt down in the year 1690, by a party of King JAMES's soldiers, with the DUKE OF BERWICK at their head, who, after he had dined in it, left it in a flame; which had this further aggravating circumstance, that, at the time of its being demolished, it belonged to LIONEL, the grandson of the nobleman who built it, who was then a minor, and upon his

* There are two inns at *Charleville*, nearly opposite to each other, with post horses; the *Duke of York* on the left, the *Military Hotel* on the right; the latter of which appears the best, though I stopped at the former.

† The foundation of this house was laid on the 29th of May, 1661. His lordship, in a letter to the *Duke of Ormond*, 1662, says, "That he hopes, by his grace's favour, to get it made a borough, and have it bear the name of *Charleville*; it being now called by the heathenish name of *Rathgogan*." His lordship adds, "I admit neither presbyter, papist, independent, nor, as our proclamation says, any other sort of fanatick, to plant there, but all good protestants; and am setting up manufactures of lineus and woollen cloths, and all other good trades."

Smith's Cork, vol. i, p. 303.

travels into foreign kingdoms; yet, as he was a protestant, and descended from ancestors who had been firm and faithful in that persuasion, his house, his library, his papers, and all his goods, were piously devoted to the flames. "*Tantum religio potuit.*"

FRIDAY 1 AUGUST. FROM CHARLEVILLE TO TIPPERARY XXI MILES. I passed through one of the old city gates of KILMALLOCK, and cast a longing eye on its interesting ruins. Rich and level country, cultivated with bere*, flax, and potatoes, spotted occasionally with gentlemen's seats. I adopt the word *spotted*, because from the small plantations of trees with which they are usually surrounded, they appear like so many green spots on a surface otherwise destitute of foliage. See on the right, a square tower with projections at the top, tolerably perfect; a cemetery on the left, and close to it an earthen *tumulus*. I baited my horses and breakfasted at the little village of ELTON, near which is a well wooded seat of the GRADY family. The population of this district seems great, if I may judge from the numerous cottages dispersed over it; but they still bear the same miserable appearance and construction. The lofty range of the GAULTY mountains pre-

* *Bere* is a species of bearded corn, of the barley kind, but grows stronger and coarser, and ripens sooner than either wheat or barley.

sents a rudely broken outline on the right*. On leaving ELTON, see an earthen *tumulus* on the left, and beyond it, apparently another of a flatter construction. Same style of country, neglected pastures, and disgusting hovels. A church in ruins upon an eminence to the right.

* Mr. Young, in his Tour, (*Vol. ii. p. 62.*) gives a very animated account of this range of mountains, and strongly recommends them to the traveller's attention, in the following words: "Those who are fond of scenes in which nature reigns in all her wild magnificence, should visit this stupendous chain. It consists of many vast mountains, thrown together in an assemblage of the most interesting features; from boldness and height of the declivities, freedom of outline, and variety of parts; filling a space of about six miles by three or four. *Galtymore* is the highest point, and rises like the lord and father of the surrounding progeny. From the top you look down upon a great extent of mountain, which shelves away from him to the south, east, and west; but to the north, the ridge is almost a perpendicular declivity." There are several lakes on these mountains, which, from their regular and circular shape, are supposed to have been produced by volcanic matter. The glens also diverging from these mountains, contain many natural beauties, particularly the western one, which presents a fine cascade. Mr. Young concludes his description of this district, by recommending the following route to those whose curiosity may induce them to follow his steps. "A good line in which to view these objects, is to take the *Killarney* and *Mallow* road, to *Mitchelstown*, and from thence by *Lord Kingsborough's* new one, to *Skeheenrinky*, there to take one of the glens to *Galty-beg* and *Galty-more*, and return to *Mitchelstown* by the *Wolf's Track*, *Templehill*, and the *Waterfall*; or if the *Cork* road is travelling, to make *Ballyporeen*, (where there is an excellent inn) the quarters, and view the mountains from thence."

[*Quere.* Is it not built within an earthen enclosure? the rain prevented my viewing it.] Close to the road side, on the left, are the ruins of a spacious mansion, called DAMER'S COURT, the seat of the DAMER family, the head of which now bears the title of DORCHESTER. The roof of the adjoining chapel is falling in, and shortly will follow the fate of the neighbouring mansion house. In a field close to the road side on the right, I observed a large stone, with some smaller near it, which appeared to me to bear the marks of a ruined *Cromlech*; but a violent rain still confined me within my carriage. I mention these little particularities, as hints to travellers, who may have leisure and fine weather to examine if my suppositions are well founded. In travelling through a new country, the eye should ever be upon the watch: its soil, produce, character, all should be examined; and by the artist, every effect of light and shade; nay every stone, weed, or wall, may bear its proportionate degree of interest. Perhaps on no one occasion do the love and knowledge of drawing and painting, contribute so much to the amusement of those who cultivate them, as in travelling through a dreary country, unvaried by the beautiful irregularities and decorations of nature; for even there the eye of science will discover some latent beauties, some harmonious tints, some striking effects of nature,

I was detained at TIPPERARY some hours for want of horses, and was at last obliged to continue my journey to CASHEL with the same. x miles*. The town of TIPPERARY consists of one long street; and I could not learn that it contained any objects worthy of the stranger's notice; nor is it, I believe, described in the *Iter*. The country in its neighbourhood improves somewhat, is better cultivated, and has more hedges. See on the right a large raised *tumulus*, with an attached out-work. THOMAS-TOWN is in the same direction; the seat of LORD LLANDAFF, surrounded by extensive plantations: see a nursery for forest trees: Happy would it be for IRELAND, if they were more frequent! On the left, are the ruins of a tower within a gentleman's demesne. Cross the River SUIR at the village of GOOLDEN, where a round tower (but not one of the lofty species) composes well with the bridge, river, &c. and forms a good subject for the pencil. Another gentleman's seat on the left. The ROCK OF CASHEL opens to view; and bad cultivation reappears. At the CASTLE INN (RYALL'S) I found good accommodations.

CASHEL. The antiquary, the historian, and the artist, will experience a rich treat in view-

* The *King's Arms Inn*, (*Read's*) at the end of the town, is the best inn.

ing the ecclesiastical remains that still crown the ROCK OF CASHEL. A stone roofed chapel, a round tower, and a spacious cathedral, compose this varied and interesting group of buildings. The former most particularly claims our attention, being of a singular construction, and the best preserved edifice of the sort in IRELAND; it bears also a date of very high antiquity; its foundation being almost universally attributed to CORMAC, son of CULINAN, King of MUNSTER, and Archbishop of CASHEL, who flourished at the beginning of the tenth century*. We have to regret that Mr. ARCHDALE, in his *Monasticon*, has passed over this building in total silence; and also that he has said so little respecting the more modern cathedral. Dr. LEDWICH has published a dissertation on the stone roofed chapels of the ancient Irish, with a particular account of CORMAC's Chapel, and a plan and section, which do not give a just idea of it; the perspective being false, and making it appear of larger dimensions than in reality it is. Speaking of CORMAC, he says, "that Irish romantic history tells us, that he was descended from OLLIOL-OLUM, King of

* To *Cormac*, are attributed two literary compositions; the *Psalter of Cashel*, and a *Glossary*: the former is often mentioned and extolled by Irish antiquaries, though its present existence is very doubtful: a part is said to have been preserved in the Bodleian library at Oxford.

MUNSTER, of the EUGENIAN race, and that he was proclaimed King of CASHEL A.D. 902, according to the annals of INNISFALLEN, exercising at the same time the archiepiscopal functions. That in 906, he was suddenly attacked by FLAN, King of MEATH, and by CARRIBHAL, King of LEINSTER, who plundered his country; that in 907, he defeated these enemies on the plains of MOYLENA in MEATH, but in 908, he was again invaded, and fell in a battle on the plain of MOYAILBE, not far from LEIGHLIN. But I rely more on the testimony of CARADOC of LHANCARVAN for his existence, than the plausible fictions of national writers; and I think that this Welsh Chronicler mentions his being slain by the Danes*.

* *Ledwich*, p. 148. On referring to the old edition of the *Welsh Chronicle*, edited by *Dr. Powel*, I find the following passage: 'The Danes, about the yeare 905, entered into Ireland, and fought with the Irishmen, and slue *Carmot*, King and Bishop of all Ireland, and the sonne of *Cukeman*, a man both godlie and religious, and *Kyrnalt* sonne of *Murgan*, King of *Lagines* (*Leinster*.) But the original version of the *Welsh Chronicle*, printed in the *Mycyrian Archaeology*, vol. ii. p. 484, differs somewhat from the above. Anno 905, "*y bucarw Gorchywyl escob a Cormoc vrenhin ac escob holl Iwerddon. A gwr mawr y grefyd ay gardawt oed. Culennan alas yn yr ymlad hwnnw ac y bu parw Kyrnallt vab Murgan brenhin Lagenensi' yn diwed yr ymlad.*" "A.D. 905, *Gorchywyl*, the Bishop, died, and *Cormoc*, King and Bishop of all Ireland; and he was a great man for piety and charity. *Culennan* was slain in battle, and *Kyrnalt*, son of *Murgan*, King of *Lagene*, (*Leinster*) died at the end of the battle."

This building was certainly the first, if not the only one, that in ancient times graced the summit of the ROCK OF CASHEL. Its walls and roof are entirely constructed with stone: the latter ridged up to an angle, in the form of a wedge*; a peculiarity which all the stone roofed chapels seem to have throughout Ireland. On entering this chapel from the southern side of the choir of the cathedral, you evidently perceive, that the southern wall of the new edifice has intersected a part of the roof of the more ancient one. A most curious Saxon doorway, decorated with the zigzag and bead ornaments now presents itself; over the arch is a singular device very rudely sculptured in bas relief, representing a man shooting at a beast with a bow and arrow. It is difficult to say, what animal this is intended to represent; it is of a large species, and has claws. The *soffit* of this arch is very elegant in its design and execution. Every lover of British antiquity, will be highly gratified with the first sight of this very curious chapel. Its roof is of stone, groined with square ribs, springing from short Saxon

* There are many remains of these stone roofed chapels in Ireland, but none so rich in their construction and decorations as the one at *Cashel*. I have before noticed one at *Killaloe*; and there is another near *Dublin*, dedicated to *St. Doulach*, on the road to *Malahide*.

pillars with varied capitals. At the eastern end is a large recess, separated from the western part of the building by a very rich Saxon arch, ornamented with the grotesque heads of men and beasts, placed at certain intervals around the arch, from its base upwards. Within the recess, is another of smaller dimensions, which was intended probably for the altar. The walls of each are relieved by blank arches, and several grotesque heads appear in the cieling. The pilasters in the nave of the chapel, from which the blank arches spring, have been richly decorated with different devices, but from the darkness that pervades the building, they cannot be sufficiently distinguished. On the north side of this chapel, is a small room, into which you pass under the fine Saxon doorway, before described; where a niche in the wall is said to have sheltered the tomb of the royal and reverend founder. Opposite to this doorway, is another facing south, which must be viewed from the outside. Over the arch is the figure of a strange and unknown animal, having a cross marked on its hinder flanks. It was accidentally discovered during the late rebellion, in 1796, by some soldiers endeavouring to force a way into the chapel through the doorway which had been stopped up. The outside walls on the south side of the chapel, have blank arches, and

pillars with grotesque heads, and a square tower attached to it. Over each recess in the chapel, there is a vaulted apartment, with a stone roof. On an impartial review of this building, I am inclined to think that too remote a date has not been ascribed to its foundation; its masonry, architecture, and ornaments, are certainly the production of a very early age; and the round tower was probably erected at or near the same period. It stands at the eastern angle of the north transept; and it appears very evident, that the walls of the cathedral were annexed to it at a subsequent period. This tower is very perfect, and has its stone roof entire; like the one before mentioned at CLOYNE, it had windows to light each separate floor, of which the signs are very perceptible by the projecting layers of stones: the original doorway was towards the south; this has been walled up, and another opened into the cathedral, from whence you may view the whole height of this curious lantern.

Let us now consider the more modern parts of this group. The cathedral, still venerable amidst its ruins, and a most imposing object to all the surrounding country, owes its rise to DONALD O'BRIEN, King of LIMERICK, who in the year 1169, built a new church from the ground, still preserving the more ancient Chapel of CORMAC and the round tower, uninjur-

ed. In the year 1216, DONAT, Archbishop of the See, erected the town into a borough, and in 1320, it was encompassed by a stone wall. In the reign of KING HENRY V. A. D. 1421, being much decayed, it was repaired by RICHARD O'HEDIAN, Archbishop of the See; who also built a hall for the vicars choral. About the year 1495, this cathedral was burned by the EARL OF KILDARE, who, by this savage act, intended to wreak his vengeance on Archbishop CREAGH, whom he supposed to be within the walls at the time of the conflagration*. It was fortified during the civil wars, and in 1647, was stormed and taken by LORD INCHQUIN. The performance of divine service con-

* Mr. Lodge, in his genealogy of the *Desmond* family, relates on this occasion the following anecdote of *Gerald*, the eighth Earl of *Kildare*. Amongst other charges, having been accused of burning the Church of *Cashel*, he readily confessed it, and swore, "that he never would have done it, but that he thought the Archbishop was in it." This frank confession, and voluntary declaration of the most aggravating circumstance, convinced the King (*Henry VII.*) that a person of such natural innate plainness and simplicity, could not be guilty of those intrigues imputed to him: so that when the Bishop of *Meath*, his most inveterate accuser, concluded his last article with this sharp expression: "You see what a man he is; all Ireland cannot rule yonder gentleman;" the King replied, "If it is so, then he is meet to rule all Ireland, seeing all Ireland cannot rule him;" and accordingly made him Lord Lieutenant, by patent, dated 6 August, 1496, restored him to his honour and estate, and dismissed him with many rich presents. *Lodge's Peerage*, vol. i. p. 86.

tinued within it till the year 1751 or 1752, when Archbishop PRICE unroofed the choir, and by thus exposing it to the effects of the weather, speedily converted it into a ruin. On a more recent survey, by orders of Archbishop AGAR, who was desirous of restoring to the Rock its long lost religious honours, it was found to be in so ruinous a condition, that its reparation was deemed useless; upon which, a new church was erected within the town, in a more commodious, though less commanding, situation.

The ancient building presents a mixture of military and ecclesiastical architecture, by which its external appearance is rendered much more picturesque. It is more to be admired as a grand and well broken mass of masonry, than for the elegance of either its plan or decorations. The whole is of the narrow pointed order, and has the peculiarity of having no western portal, the entrance doors being placed to the north and south of the west window; the latter of which is only now open. The only monument worth recording, is that of Archbishop MACRATH, bearing date 1621*. It is placed against the south wall of the choir, and represents the effigy of this dignitary in a re-

* In my account of *Lismore*, I have had occasion to mention this same Archbishop.

cumbent attitude, with his right hand upon his breast, and holding in his left the pastoral staff. On a tablet is this inscription.

MILERI MACRATH ARCHIEPISCOPI CASHELLENSIS
ad viatorem carmen.

*Venerat in Dunum primo sanctissimus olim
Patricius, nostri gloria magna soli.
Huic ego succedens, utinam tam sanctus ut ille!
Sic Duni primo tempore Præsul eram.
Anglia lustra decem, sed post tua sceptræ colebam,
Principibus placui, Marte tonante, tuis.
Hic ubi sum positus, non sum, sum non, ubi non sum.
Sum nec in ambobus, sum sed utroque loco.*

*Dominus est qui me judicat. I Cor ! 1621.
Qui stat, caveat ne cadat.*

At his head is an escutcheon of arms, and at his feet is the figure of our Saviour on the cross, badly sculptured in bas relief.

On the south side of the cathedral, is an edifice called the Dean's Hall; and over the chimney is the following inscription, which my guide told me had puzzled many people; but its meaning is very evident.

F. S. E. T. E. H. ME. FIERI. FE.....

These letters commemorate the persons who

caused this chimney piece to be made, but the initial letters of their names are only recorded*. Between this building and the church, is a curious stone, elevated upon a large block, one side of which represents a crucifixion, and the other a figure commonly ascribed to ST. PATRICK.

The ruins of another large monastick building within the town of CASHEL are appropriated to modern uses; and there was a third religious house, called HACKET'S ABBEY, situated at the rear of FRIAR STREET, but now in ruins.

At a short distance from the town, and in a westerly direction, are the remains of HORE ABBEY, the most remarkable particular of which is the groined roof that supported the turret, and which is still in good preservation. It was originally founded for Benedictines, and was called ST. MARY'S ABBEY of the ROCK OF CASHEL; but the Archbishop, DAVID M'CARVILL, having dreamed, in the year 1269, or 1272, that these monks had made an attempt to cut off his head, he violently dispossessed them of their house, lands, &c. and gave the whole of their possessions to a body of Cistercian monks, whom he brought from the Abbey of MELLIFONT, in the County of LOUTH,

* I should read this inscription thus: "*FS et EH. me fieri fecerunt.*"

and at the same time took upon himself the habit of that order. ARCHDALE, p. 650. This author, has been as diffuse in the description of this abbey, as he has been neglectful in that of the cathedral.

The County of TIPPERARY abounds in monastick ruins, one of which, ATHASSEL, has been amply described by Mr. ARCHDALE, and by LEDWICH; it is situated about three miles S.W. of CASHEL.

CASHÉL has also been much celebrated in history for the synod that was held there in the year 1172, the particulars of which, together with the heads of the constitutions established there, have been recorded by GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS, in his "*History of Ireland*," Book xii. Chapters 33 and 4, and published in English by the Historian HOLLINSHED.

From CASHEL I made an excursion to the Abbey of HOLY CROSS, of which fame had spoken loudly; my expectations therefore were highly raised with the hopes of seeing a monastick building, superior in architectural splendour to any in IRELAND*. It is situated

* I have frequently, during my tour, had cause to complain of the want of information, taste and judgment amongst the natives respecting similar antiquities, as well as natural curiosities: but it is the business and duty of a tourist, who in his travels combines the pursuits of amusement with that of information, not to give credit to every desultory account he may

on the River SUIRE, about seven miles north of CASHEL, and at first sight, is by no means prepossessing in its external appearance, or natural accompaniments; neither will it afford one good subject for the pencil. The interior of the building claims our attention, not from the general architecture that pervades it, but from two rich monumental relicks, that differ in their plan from any I have seen either in ENGLAND or IRELAND. The first is a Gothic tomb very richly sculptured, with a projecting canopy of stone, supported by three trefoil arches, springing from taper columns of black marble; in the centre of one of which, is the figure of an angel praying. The soffit of the canopy is richly groined, and the base of this fine tomb is also richly sculptured. Some faint idea of its form may be collected from the sketch given by Mr. HOLMES, in his *Irish Tour*: but the pen and judgment alone of a CARTER* can do ample justice to its beautiful detail.

It has generally been attributed to DONOGH

collect, but to see with his own eyes, and pronounce from his own judgment,

* Mr. John Carter of London, the most intelligent artist we have on the subject of *British Architecture*, vulgarly and improperly called *Gothic*.

CARBRAGH O'BRIEN, KING OF LIMERICK *, who founded the Abbey of HOLY CROSS, and who died about 1194. But I have since been informed, by an able Irish Antiquary, that it belongs to the O'FAGARTY family ; this doubt might be cleared by examining the escutcheons of arms that are placed upon the tomb.

The second monument is of a very singular design, and unlike any I recollect to have seen: it consists of a double row of Gothic arches, supported by twisted pillars. The space between them, as to length and breadth, seems to favour the idea of its having been appropriated to receive the corpse of the deceased ; and where the ceremony of *waking* was performed by the monks. On one side an excavation is made for the reception of holy water. The base of this monument is richly decorated with trefoils and finials.

* This illustrious personage, surnamed *Donal-more*, or *Donal the Great*, was proclaimed *King of Munster* in the year 1168 ; he died in 1194, but the place of his interment is not mentioned by Mr. Lodge, in his account of the family of *O'Brien*. I am inclined to think, that this tomb has been improperly attributed to him, as it does not bear in its architectural decorations the appearance of so old a date as 1194 ; neither do *any* of the bearings on the three escutcheons of arms, which are placed upon this monument, bear any resemblance to those of the *O'Brien* family.

Though independent of the two monuments I have mentioned, there is little besides worth notice, some slight account of the building in general, may not prove unsatisfactory to my readers, especially as the *Abbey of Holy Cross* has been so highly extolled, and in my opinion so far above its deserts. The western window is of ordinary sculpture, and simple architecture. The nave has five round arches on the south side, and four of the pointed order on the north, with narrow side aisles; a wall runs across the nave, and a pointed arch, more ornamented in its workmanship, leads into the side aisles. The turret is supported by four broad pointed arches; the roof is groined in a style superior to any I have seen in IRELAND: in the centre of it, you see five holes, through which the bell ropes were most probably suspended. The eastern window corresponds exactly in form and design with those before mentioned at KILMALLOCK and CLOYNE. Opposite the monument, vulgarly attributed to DONOGH O'BRIEN, is a black altar tomb, bearing a flowery cross on a slab, and an inscription on its edge in old characters: at the base, is a bas relief of our Saviour on the cross, with a female by his side in the act of praying. The northern transept (whose roof is also groined,) is divided into two chapels, in one of which is a

window prettily designed, as well as a niche for holy water ; and the fragments of an handsome altar tomb. The roof of the southern transept is likewise groined, and has its niche for the reception of holy water. In the south aisle, I observed the mutilated head of an abbot (small life) and numerous sculptured fragments : the keystones, from which the arches spring, are well executed, and decorated with various devices. These holy precincts are still appropriated to the offices of interment, but I did not observe the same indecencies respecting the dead, as I did in many other churches. According to vulgar tradition, there was a subterraneous communication between this abbey and the neighbourhood of THURLES. Mr. ARCHDALE, in describing this monastery, makes the following very just remark respecting its architecture, which, on viewing it, struck me also : he says, " The difference in the work of this monastery is very extraordinary : nothing could have been more highly finished than the steeple and chapels, which are built of marble and limestone ; yet the nave, the aisles, and adjoining ruins, are miserably mean."

These ruins cover a considerable space, and are surrounded by a mass of most wretched cottages, built out of their mouldered remains. The situation on the river is advantageous,

and a bridge of communication adjoins the village and abbey. Nothing attracted my attention between CASHEL and HOLY CROSS, except a few of those raised earthen works, so common throughout IRELAND.

MONDAY 4 AUGUST. From CASHEL to JOHNSTOWN, XVII MILES. PARKESTOWN, the seat of Mr. LANPHIER, on the right; near it the ruins of MOYCARKY CASTLE. Turf bogs, which had disappeared for some time, again show themselves; a ruined church on the left; roads excellent, and, according to the Irish phrase, "*as straight as a gun barrel.*" Castle of BALLYBEG on the right, and a new built church. Finding no post horses at LITTLETON Inn, I proceeded on my journey, through a flat, rich, and well cultivated country, over which many small forts or strong houses are dispersed. Breakfasted at JOHNSTOWN; inn good, and well supplied with post horses.

From JOHNSTOWN to DURROW, VIII MILES. Little variety of country, road good, but somewhat more hilly: pass by the Spa of BALLYSPELLAN on the right, where there are some neat looking cottages, a very unusual sight in Ireland*. Leave the County of TIPPERARY near

* An account of this place, and the quality of its mineral spring, are given by Mr. Tighe, in his Statistical survey of the County of Kilkenny, p. 111.

URLINGFORD, a village formed of one long street, and crossing a small angle of the County of KILKENNY, enter the QUEEN'S COUNTY. See at a short distance to the left, the ruins of FERTAGH, where a priory was founded, under the invocation of St. KIARAN, in the 13th century, by the family of BLANCHFIELD, for Regular Canons, following the rule of St. AUGUSTIN.

Through whatever country we direct our steps, the attention is naturally arrested at the sight of ruins. Whether military or monastick, they are equally interesting; but we wish to know their date, their founder, their history. A traveller, like myself, in a strange country, where accurate information can neither be procured from the living, or from the dead, is exposed during his rambles to many inconveniences, and frequently suffers the mortification of leaving sights unseen that deserve notice, and of remaining ignorant of the history of many of those which fall in his way.

As the principal object I have in view, is to give a faithful description of those objects which have passed under my own immediate notice; as well as extracts from those authors to whom I have been able to procure access, I shall make no apology for laying before my readers Mr. ARCHDALE's description of this religious establishment at FERTAGH; more particularly as it

retains some monumental antiquities ; in which line the generality of Irish churches are very deficient. "There still remains here a small ancient chapel, in which is a large raised tomb, with the figure of a man in armour, rudely engraved thereon, his hands in a praying posture, and a dog at his feet ; by his side was originally the figure of his wife, with an inscription on the cushion, which lay under her head ; but this part of the tomb, now going to decay, is broken into two pieces, and the inscription rendered illegible by time*. This tomb is said to belong to the family of FITZPATRICK. Near to it is another monument, which appears to be a woman, with a singular head dress, rising up on each side, as Bishop POCOCKE describes it, in two horns.

In the east wall is a small figure of our Saviour, very inelegantly executed ; and a few yards west of the chapel, stands a round tower, much decayed, being cracked quite up from the door, and wanting the top. It is about 48 feet in circumference, and the wall is three feet eight inches thick : the door, which is six feet by two, and ten from the ground, faces the east ; the inside is divided into five stories †, at each

* The *Iter* says, that this tomb bears the date of 1489.

† Mr. Tighe in his *Statistical Survey of the County of Kilkenny*,

of which is a resting place, formed by the wall, sufficient to support a floor, and diminishing upwards; the neighbouring inhabitants say, this tower is 112 feet high, but it seems not to exceed 90.

Had I gained previous information about the antiquities of FERTAGH, it should not have been unvisited, for I believe I could have approached it with my carriage. The road continues very good; fine crops of corn, country more clothed with wood; several round earthen works occur. A large old fashioned mansion house on the left, belonging to LORD ASHBROOKE, adjoins the town of DURROW, which is pleasantly situated on the banks of a small river, called by

says, the name of this place was *Fartagh na Geiragh*, a corruption probably of *Farta na Ancoiragh*, the burial place of the Anchorites, or Culdee Monks. *Feart*, according to *Humphrey Lluyd*, in his *Irish Dictionary*, signifies a *grave*. This author states the round tower to be 96 feet high; and says that it had *eight* stories and *seven* floors: the door opening on the first, is twelve feet from the ground, and looks towards the church; the wall at the door is three feet two inches thick: the upper story has four windows, whose tops are angular, and formed by two stones. I am inclined to think, that Mr. *Tighe* has made some mistake about the number of floors or stories, which I have never known to exceed five in any round tower I have yet seen; but this may be ascertained by examining the number of windows, as the *upper* story had generally *four*, and the under stories only *one*.

SMITH, the ERKIN, and has a good inn, with chaises and post horses.

The author of the *Iter*, records the following historical fact of this town. "DURROW is a small town, formerly part of the QUEEN'S COUNTY, but on coming into possession of the BUTLER family, who were perpetually harrassed by the powerful sept of the FITZPATRICKS, the EARL OF ORMOND procured an act of parliament to make this estate part and parcel of the COUNTY OF KILKENNY, although surrounded by the QUEEN'S COUNTY; and the offending FITZPATRICKS being taken, were transferred immediately to KILKENNY, and there, removed from their connexions, they suffered the penalties of the law."

From DURROW to BALLYROAN, VIII MILES. Road very good. On the right, skirt DUNMORE, the demesne of the STAPLES family, and further on, pass WATER-CASTLE on the left, the seat of Mr. LYONS, prettily situated on the banks of a rapid stream, called the NORE*,

* This river and the *Barrow* take their rise in the *Slieve Bloom* mountains; and with the *Suir*, which rises in *Bendulf* mountain very near them, after watering a great extent of country, unite again below *Waterford*, and flow together into the sea: they are consequently and significantly styled the *Sister Rivers*, from their rise in the same district and reunion.

Survey of Queen's County, p. 18.

and in a well wooded valley. The mansion house seems to have been formed out of one of the old square castles. See on the left a long range of wood and rich country. What a sad contrast do the bogs make on the right! Pass through a village where neatness and symmetry seem to have been studied in the arrangement of the cottages; all the windows having a square label over them. Pasture lands increase, and the crops of corn become less vigorous. Good inn, with chaises and post horses.

From BALLYROAN to EMO INN, IX MILES. Road good. On the right is the well wooded seat of the PARNELL family, with ornamented pleasure grounds, in which a *rotundo* makes a conspicuous figure; architecture bad; columns too slender, and balustrade at top. See on the right, at some distance, the ruins of a castle very boldly situated on a rocky eminence*. This singular rock and castle, which, according to the best information I could collect, well de-

* I am inclined to think this is the *Dunum* of *Ptolemy*, which he places in the country of the *Coriondi*, between the *Menapii* on the north, and the *Brigantes* on the south; he also fixes it on the southern banks, and near the source of a river called *Oboca*. *Dunamase* Castle bears the same relative situation to the River *Barrow*. Whoever consults the map of *Ptolemy*, will clearly see that his *Dunum* can never be transferred so far north as *Downpatrick*.

serves the notice of the tourist, is thus mentioned in the *Survey of the Queen's County* : “ The Rock of DONAMASE, or DUN-NA-MAES, which signifies in the Irish language, *the Fort of the Plain*, is certainly a place of great curiosity, which nature and art had combined to render of the most formidable strength, before the use of artillery had been known. It is one of those hills which so peculiarly stand separate from the neighbouring chain, and being extremely steep, was naturally inaccessible on all sides but the south west, where was the entrance.”

The plain alluded to in the original tongue, is the great heath, or height of MARYBOROUGH, which lies to the north-east of DUN, or the *fortress*, being a flat of considerable extent, and was the commonage that belonged to the fort after it became a manor.

This insulated rock was the residence of the Irish princes, who had a dwelling on its summit; and we find, that on the first arrival of the English, in the reign of KING HENRY THE SECOND, A. D. 1167, it was the principal residence of DERMOD MAC MURROGH, KING OF LEINSTER, at whose solicitation it was, that the English came as settlers into IRELAND. By the marriage of Earl STRONGBOW with EVA, only daughter of MAC MURROGH, this castle de-

volved to him as a part of her extensive inheritance. The Earl dying without issue male, his possessions descended to his only daughter ISABEL, who espoused WILLIAM MARSHALL, and thus gained the title of EARL OF PEMBROKE. Though he had five sons, who severally enjoyed this province, they all died without issue; and thus the inheritance was divided amongst his five daughters. WILLIAM DE BRAOSE, Lord of BRECKNOCK, by his marriage with one of them, gained possession of this district; and it afterwards descended to ROGER DE MORTIMER, who married MAUD, daughter of WILLIAM DE BRAOSE. This nobleman entrusted it, together with his lands in LEIX*, to the confidential care of one of his vassals, named LAISAGH, going himself to ENGLAND, to support the interest of his sovereign, who was at that time threatened with rebellion at home. Soon after the Earl's departure, LAISAGH taking advantage of his absence,

* *Leix*. An account of this district, its castle, abbey, &c. may be found in the *Statistical Survey*, p. 62. In demolishing the old town and abbey, a sepulchral stone was found bearing this inscription in Saxon characters :

HIC JACET MALACHUS O'MORUS QUI OBIIT

and is still to be seen in the gardens of *Lord de Vesci*.

and the trust reposed in him, having raised a powerful clan, usurped the surname of O'MORE, a family that had some pretension to these estates, and declaring that he was the lawful heir to that family, seized on the whole country, and in one evening made himself master of eight castles, amongst which was this famous Fort of DUNAMASE. Having surprised the English garrison in it, he dismantled and destroyed it, as being the principal house of Lord MORTIMER in LEIX. The recovery of so important a place was anxiously sought for by the English, and in less than three years, it again came into their possession by the fortune of war; but their interest was yet too weak in the country to withstand the numerous armies of the O'MORES, who retook it in 1344, but only held it for two years after; for being repossessed by Lord MORTIMER*, together with his estates

* This cannot be the *same* Lord Mortimer, who by his marriage with *Maud*, daughter of *William de Braose*, gained the inheritance of *Leix*, for (according to *Dugdale*) he died in 10 Edward I. (A. D. 1282) and was buried in *Wigmore Abbey*, *Herefordshire*.

He was succeeded in his title and possessions by his son *Edmund*, who died about the year 1297, leaving several children; of whom the eldest was named *Roger*. This powerful nobleman, for his rebellious practices, suffered an ignominious death upon the gallows in *Smithfield*, A. D. 1330. He was succeeded by his

in LEIX, he determined to secure it, if possible, from future attacks, and then added such numerous works, as made it a place of impregnable strength.

The territory of LEIX and its castles, were vested in the possession of many masters, who resided at DUNAMASE, until the reign of JAMES I. when it was again repaired. In the rebellion of 1641, it was secured by the insurgents, as being a principal strong hold, from which they were dispossessed by a small body of English troops, who seized the fort, and defended it with great bravery, till SIR CHARLES COOTE relieved them. It afterwards capitulated to General PRESTON, but was retaken by the royal forces, and held by them till the year 1646, when OWEN ROE O'NEIL, an Irish chief, took it by assault, together with MARYBOROUGH, and five others of lesser note. After the expulsion of this chieftain, DUNAMASE, MARYBOROUGH, and all the dependent garrisons were surrendered to the forces of Colonels HEWSON and REYNOLDS, who were

eldest son *Edmund*, who died in 1331, leaving *Roger* his son and heir, a minor of three years old, the same personage here mentioned as having regained possession of *Dunamase Castle*, and who died abroad, A. D. 1361, and was buried with his ancestors in *Wigmore Abbey*.

CROMWELL's officers ; and by them this important fortress was dismantled and blown up.

A long and accurate description of the situation and fortifications of DUNAMASE Castle, has been given by SIR CHARLES COOTE, in his *Survey of the Queen's County*, to whom, as well as to DR. LEDWICH, [who has added a view and ground plan] I shall refer those of my readers, who may wish for more ample information respecting this interesting remnant of military splendour and antiquity.

Continuing my journey towards Emo Inn ; see an extensive view from RATHEAN Common, and a small ruined castle on the right ; join the great road leading to LIMERICK, TRALEE, and DINGLE. Emo Inn is a single house, a good inn, and well supplied with post horses* ; though I think I may apply to it, what was once said to a Cistercian monk, "*Albior exterius quàm interius.*"

TUESDAY 5 AUGUST. From Emo Inn to KILDARE, X MILES. Road good and level ; country uninteresting. At MONASTEREVAN, a village situated on the banks of the River BARROW, the demesne of the MARQUIS OF DROGHEDA occupies the site of a celebrated abbey,

* At a short distance from *Emo Inn*, is the seat of Lord Portarlington.

which was founded by ST. ABBAN, who granted it the privilege of a sanctuary ; and here was kept the consecrated bell of ST. EVIN, which on solemn trials, was sworn to. In latter times the Abbot sat as a Baron in parliament. The situation is low, near the river ; and the environs abound in bog. The first view of KILDARE is made conspicuous by its lofty round tower and monastick remains, situated on the ridge of a hill. Mr. ARCHDALE has been very diffuse in his annals of KILDARE, and has recorded a continued series of the abbesses from the year 520, to the period of its dissolution, as well as the numerous vicissitudes which the town underwent.

The foundation of this nunnery is attributed to ST. BRIGID, the illegitimate daughter of an Irish chieftain, who was born in the year 453, and at the age of 14 received the veil from the hands of ST. PATRICK himself, or from one of his immediate disciples. She founded a nunnery at KILDARE before the year 484, and about the same time an abbey was also founded, under the same roof, for monks, but separated by walls from the nunnery ; which latter came afterwards into the possession of the Regular Canons of ST. AUGUSTIN. The nuns and monks had but one church in common, which they entered at different doors. ST. BRIGID presided as well

over the monks as the nuns, and, strange to tell! the *abbot* of this house was subject to the *abbess* for several years after the death of the celebrated founder, which happened in the year 523. She was interred here, but her remains were afterwards removed to the Cathedral Church of DOWN. Amongst the annals of this nunnery, I find that DERMOT MAC MURROGH, King of LEINSTER, in the year 1135, forcibly took the abbess out of her cloyster, and compelled her to marry one of his own people: and that in 1220, HENRY DE LONDRES, Archbishop of DUBLIN, put out the fire called *unextinguishable*, which had been preserved from a very early time by the nuns of ST. BRIGID: this fire however was *relighted*, and continued to burn until the total suppression of monasteries.

The ruins of this monastick building are at present very trifling, and adjoin the parish church; to the N.W. of which is a very lofty round tower, in good preservation, except as to its roof: its total height is stated at 130 feet, and that of its doorway at fourteen, from the ground. In the churchyard is a very large block of stone, once the pedestal of a cross, whose fretted fragments are lying on the ground near it*.

* Mr. Grose, in his *Antiquities of Ireland*, says, that within the

There were also in and near this town two other religious establishments. 1. The GRAY ABBEY, erected for Franciscans, or Grey Friars, in the year 1260, by Lord WILLIAM DE VESCY; but completed by GERALD FITZ MAURICE, LORD OFFALEY. 2. The WHITE FRIARS, or Carmelites, founded A. D. 1290, by WILLIAM DE VESCY. This latter convent had, in the year 1320, a celebrated abbot at its head, whose fame was so great, that according to BALE, he swayed the councils of the whole Island: “DAVID O’BUGE, in *Hyberniâ tandem Carmelitarum summus præses effectus, universam ferè insulam, principes et episcopos, suo arbitratu dirigebat. Erat namque philosophus, rhetor, theologus, et utriusque legis in totâ illâ terrâ peritissimus, atque ita totius Hybernicae nationis lucerna, speculum, ac decus à multis appellatus.*” “He was well versed in divinity, philosophy, rhetoric, and the canon and civil law, and was generally called the burning light, the mirror and ornament of his country.”

Having breakfasted at KILDARE, we proceed-

south wing (now in ruins) are two sepulchral effigies, one of a Bishop in robes, another of *Sir Maurice Fitz-Gerald of Lackagh* habited in armour, with an inscription, and five escutcheons differently emblazoned. I missed seeing these *antique* memorials, by giving too much credit to my guide to the round tower, who told me, the church contained *no old tombs*.

ed on our road to NAAS, X MILES. At a short distance from the town, we ascended the noted plain, called the CURRAGH of KILDARE, which is a fine unequal down of short and sweet pasture, particularly adapted to the feeding of sheep, of which numerous flocks animate the whole extent of this vast plain, which is said to comprehend five thousand English acres. The author of the *Iter* says, that the modern name of KILDARE is derived from *Chille-dair**, or the *Wood of Oaks*, and that here was a large forest, comprehending the middle part of the present County of KILDARE; in the centre of which was a large plain, sacred to heathen superstition, now called the CURRAGH. Ancient authors also allude to this circumstance, and GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS, in his *Topography of Ireland*, lib. ii. cap. 18, records a stupendous monument of stones situated on this plain, which, according to vulgar and fabulous tradition, was transferred from the extreme parts of *Africa* by the giants, from whom it took the name of *Chorea Gigantum*. It is also said to have had a *second* and a very distant removal, from IRELAND into the plains

* On consulting *H. Llyud's Irish Dictionary*, I find these derivations: *Currach*, a plain; *dair*, *quercus*, *cill*, a church; but no meaning of wood appropriated to the word *chille*.

of *Wiltshire*, by the order of *Aurelius Ambrosius*, King of the Britons, and by the exertions of the Prophet *Merlin*. “ *Fuit antiquis temporibus in Hiberniâ lapidum congeries admiranda, quæ et CHOREA GIGANTUM vocata fuit ; quid Gigantes eam ab ultimis Africæ partibus in Hiberniam attulerant, et in Kildariensi planicie tam ingenii quàm virium opere mirabiliter erexerant. Unde et ibidem lapides quidam aliis simillimi, similique modo erecti, usque in hodiernum conspiciuntur, &c. &c. Juxtâ Britannicam historiam lapides istos Rex Britonum AURELIUS AMBROSIVS divinâ MERLINI diligentia, de Hiberniâ in Britanniam advehi procuravit, &c. &c.*”

By the above account, it appears that some of these stones were visible in the days of *GIRALDUS*. I regretted very much that I had not leisure to examine more minutely this extensive district, as from the experience I have lately had on our *WILTSHIRE* plains, I think I might have made some interesting discoveries. The *tumuli* dispersed over the plain, prove most evidently that it was inhabited in very early times, and if properly opened, their contents would throw a great light on the Irish History, and prove the connexion both in manners and customs of the tribes inhabit-

ing Ireland and the western provinces of England.

Leaving the CURRAGH, see on the left, a large raised earthen work ; cross the River LIFFEY, at NEWBRIDGE ; road flat and good : richly cultivated country. Close to the road side, near NAAS, is the shell of an immense unfinished mansion, called in the *Iter* JIGGINSTOWN house, said to have been built by the unfortunate EARL OF STRAFFORD, and intended as a country residence for the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. A less desirable situation surely could never have been selected for a vice regal palace !

At NAAS there is a good inn, with a supply of post horses. This was formerly a town of great note, and honoured as a residence by the KINGS OF LEINSTER. On the arrival of the English, it was fortified, and many castles were erected, the ruins of which are still visible ; and parliaments were held here : but it has suffered so much from the ravages of time, that it bears only the marks of its former splendour. Near it is one of those raised earthen works, vulgarly called *raths*.

From NAAS to RATHCOOL, VIII MILES. Road good and flat, but no variety of country ; on the left, is the immured seat of Lord MAYO, called PALMERSTOWN ; and on the right, those of Mr. NEVILLE and Mr. WOLFE, well shel-

tered by wood. At JOHNSTOWN is a good and quiet inn. See on the left the seat of Mr. PONSONBY.

From RATHCOOL to DUBLIN, VIII MILES. A large extent of flat country opens towards DUBLIN, spotted with gentlemen's houses and plantations. About a quarter of a mile on the left of the road, is the fine round tower of CLONDALKIN, of which the following particulars are given in the *Iter*, p. 205: "It is 84 feet in height, and built of stones each about a foot square, forming a circle of 15 feet in diameter; the walls are upwards of a yard thick, and about 15 feet above the ground, is a door, without any steps to ascend to it. The base is solid; towards the top, are four small oblong holes, which admit the light, and it is terminated by a conic covering. There are no steps in the inside, and whether there ever were any, admits a doubt. In the churchyard, near the tower, is a plain cross, nine feet in height, and consists of one stone."

A church was founded here in very early times, of which ST. CRONAN MOCHUA was the first abbot. It was spoiled and burned in the years 832, 1071, and 1076; and a palace of AMHLAIBH, King of the Danes, is recorded at CLONDALKIN.

Passing near KILMAINHAM Hospital, the

Gaol, Canal, &c. I re-entered DUBLIN, highly gratified with the novelty which the Irish scenery and antiquities had presented to me, but regretting that sufficient time could not be spared to examine each more particularly in its detail.

NORTHERN TOUR.

FROM DUBLIN TO TRIM, KELLS, CAVAN, ENNISKILLEN, BALLYSHANNON, DONEGAL, DERRY, COLERAINE, GIANTS CAUSEWAY, ANTRIM, BELFAST, HILLSBOROUGH, ROSS TREVOR, NEWRY, DUNDALK, SLANE, NAVAN, TRIM, AND DUBLIN.

THURSDAY 7 AUGUST. From DUBLIN through MAYNOOTH and TRIM to my friend's at MITCHELSTOWN. I thus varied my former route to TRIM, by taking the lower road between the LIFFEY and the PHŒNIX Park, to CHAPEL IZOD, where we crossed the river. From thence passed close to the Spa house and LEIXLIP, near which we again traversed the LIFFEY, whose banks are thickly ornamented by gentlemen's seats, but so immured by lofty fences, that the passenger can scarcely enjoy even a

glimpse of them. Beyond LEIXLIP, on the right, is a seat of the DUKE OF LEINSTER, which might be seen by procuring at DUBLIN a previous ticket of admission into the park.

MAYNOOTH, a modern built town, with a spacious inn, and the remains of a castle *. Adjoining the town is a school for the instruction of Roman Catholic youths, upon a large establishment, and called ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE. Passed through KILCOCK, (where post horses are also kept) and turn off to the right. Drive through the demesne of SUMMER HILL: the fine mansion house annexed to it, was burned down a few years ago, and a part of it only has been lately rendered habitable by Lady Bective. This tract of country continues to be well inhabited by nobility and gentry, but affords little variety as to its state of cultivation; roads excellent. At two miles from TRIM, I observed a *tumulus* on the right, which from its pointed apex, appeared to be sepulchral. I was again obliged to leave the numerous military and monastick ruins at TRIM undrawn, and proceeded to my friend's at MITCHELSTOWN, where I remained till

* In the year 1534, this castle, which for the abundance of its furniture, was esteemed one of the richest houses in England, was besieged by Gerald, the ninth Earl of Kildare, and though defended by a strong garrison, surrendered after a siege of seven days.

MONDAY 11th AUGUST, when I proceeded on my *Northern* expedition, of which the GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, and the Coast of ANTRIM, were the chief objects of attraction.

Breakfasted at KELLS*, XII MILES. Road good; the surface of the ground uneven, but abounding more in pasture than in corn lands, kept in a slovenly manner, and much abandoned. Ruins of a church and tower on the left; a miserable line of cottages; a well planted seat of Mr. NICHOLSON on the left. On approaching KELLS, the general aspect of the country improves, and the town, with its round tower, and church spire, placed upon rising ground, and well encompassed by trees, make a pleasing appearance.

At the upper end of the principal street stands the parish church; a modern edifice, neatly fitted up, and containing a handsome sarcophagus to the memory of SIR THOMAS TAYLOR, 1736, and ANN his wife, daughter of SIR ROBERT COTTON of CUMBERMERE, CHESHIRE, 1710. On the north side of this church, stands an insulated tower, bearing on its southern wall an inscription in old characters, and stating, that the church being in decay, was reedified A.D. 1572, (20 ELIZ.) by HUGH BRADY, Bishop of MEATH. Over this inscription are

* Inn, *Bective Arms*, good; chaises and post horses.

three busts carved in stone, one of which represents a bishop, and the two others, apparently are designed for dignitaries of the church, or monks. Beneath is an escutcheon of arms, bearing a dragon holding a standard.

On the south side of the church is a round tower, (said by Mr. ARCHDALE to measure 99 feet in height) but far inferior in size, height, and beauty, to many I saw during my *Southern Tour*; it has the usual four windows near the top, but the conical roof has fallen; the doorway faces the north. The present situation of this tower differs from that I have generally observed in similar buildings, being placed to the S. W. of the church, instead of the N. W. but this seeming variation was reconciled to me by the information I procured of the Old Church, dedicated to St. SENAN, having been placed to the south of the tower. In the churchyard is the fragment of a cross, very richly decorated with figures of men, beasts, flowers, &c. &c. and a poetical memorial to record the military virtues of a soldier killed during the last rebellion.

Mr. ARCHDALE, in his *Monasticon*, has mentioned a celebrated abbey of Regular Canons, founded in this town, about the year 550, by St. COLUMBA, and has preserved its annals from a very early period, until that of its dissolution. By these we know, that the town of KELLS, as

well as its abbey, experienced many fatal disasters by fire and plunder. The market place, which still bears a castellated appearance, occupies the site of an ancient fort, said to have been erected in 1178. In a street opposite the castle, is a fragment of another fine cross, sculptured in the richest manner, with figures of horsemen, &c. &c. An unsatisfactory engraving of it has been given in the *Introduction to the Survey of Meath*, but no account of its detail, or explanation of its history. It is said to have lain neglected and prostrate on the ground for a long time, till it was raised on its pedestal by the desire, and at the expence of the celebrated Dean SWIFT*.

FROM KELLS TO VIRGINIA IX MILES. On leaving KELLS, look back from the top of the hill, and see a fine rich prospect, with Lord

* Whilst I was surveying this curious fragment of antiquity, a by-stander informed me, that there were several curious stone crosses still existing at a place called *Castle Kyran*, in the neighbourhood of *Kells*. From the *Survey of the County of Meath*, I learn, "that *St. Kieran*, about the year 540, built for himself a cell near *Kells*, at a place called *Castle Kieran*, near which there is a fine spring issuing from a rock, which the tradition of the country attributes to the miraculous order of *St. Kieran*, who blessed it. Many salutary qualities are attributed to this well, which is much resorted to by the catholics on the first Sunday in August."

BECTIVE's seat and demesne, and an ornamental tower on the left, belonging to the same nobleman. I cannot commend the architecture of either the mansion house or its appendage. The same dull and uniform country continues, cultivated with barley, oats, potatoes, and flax ; no wheat, neglected pastures, and apparently a poorer soil. Several earthen works dispersed over the country ; a very fine one, with a *tumulus* and out work in the vale near the river on the left. This river, which we crossed, is called the BLACKWATER ; it flows from LOUGH RAMOR, waters the town of KELLS, and unites its streams with the BOYNE, near NAVAN.

The road continues very good to VIRGINIA, passing near the shores of LOUGH RAMOR, the form and outline of which are good, but the banks are flat ; towards the upper end of it there is some little wood, and a mansion house (as I was told) of Mr. SNEYD. The lake contains pike and trout, but as no boats are allowed to be kept upon it by Lord HEADFORT, few of either are taken. At VIRGINIA there is a tolerable inn, with post horses. BECTIVE ARMS, FLEMING.

From VIRGINIA to CAVAN XIII MILES. Road very good ; country more hilly ; continual ascents and descents, but none very steep ; a scanty cultivation of oats and potatoes intermixed with bog.

See at some distance to the left, LOUGH SHILLIN, a lake celebrated for the superior excellence of its trout. Nearer CAVAN is a smaller pool. The town breaks suddenly upon the sight, after a very tedious longing for it, and a most dull and uninteresting post. I cannot speak much in favour of the inns at CAVAN *, each of which have a small supply of post horses. CAVAN is situated in a vale near a small river, and makes a poor appearance as a county town. I could not learn that it afforded any objects worthy of the stranger's attention.

TUESDAY 12 AUGUST. From CAVAN to BELTURBET, VIII MILES. Road very good ; country undulated with many little hills and dales, and diversified by several lakes ; continual ascents and descents ; soil cultivated with oats and potatoes ; a large portion of bog ; and wherever it is cutting, you may see large roots and trunks of trees intermixed with it for a considerable depth. At a short distance on the left of the road, is the fine demesne of Lord FARNHAM, which for its lake and wood scenery, has been much, and I believe, very justly, celebrated. I regret that I am not able, from personal inves-

* The *Ship*, and the *Boot* : two coaches [the *Dublin* and the *Northern*] stop at the former three times a week, on which days travellers will meet with inferior accommodations; the best, and almost all the rooms being kept for the accommodation of passengers by the coach.

tigation, to lay before my readers a description of its natural beauties. A want of time, which every traveller, whose object is information as well as amusement, ought not to have to complain of, obliged me to leave this interesting demesne and hospitable mansion unvisited.

We breakfasted at BELTURBET; [Inn middling, M'DERMOT,] but found not a single post horse kept there, though the landlord at CAVAN told us, that an ample supply would be found. With some difficulty we prevailed on the postboys to proceed with us to our next halting place, ENNISKILLEN, XIX MILES *. BELTURBET is built upon an eminence above the River ERNE, and consists principally of one long street, at the upper end of which is the tower and market house, and beyond it the church, near which the vestige of an ancient fortification is to be seen.

Leaving BELTURBET, I observed some insig-

* It is a prevailing, and I may with justice to the natives add, a very accommodating custom to strangers who travel post, (using their own phrase) "*not to leave your honour upon the road,*" but to continue with you until you find a fresh supply of horses; and much to the *discredit* of the landlord of the *Ship Inn* at Cavan, I will add, it was the *only* instance I met with during my tour, of any unwillingness to proceed; and had he been previously paid for his horses, (which he wished to be) he certainly would have left us in the lurch.

nificant ruins upon an eminence to the right*, and afterwards crossed a fine river, the WOODFORD. The country improves but little, either in cultivation or good appearance. Whilst our horses baited at a small public house, we walked up to a hill on the right, called KNOCKNINY. This hill, from its sudden elevation out of a flat country, makes a very conspicuous appearance, and we were informed by a gentleman, whom we met at VIRGINIA, that from its summit we should have a most comprehensive view of LOUGH ERNE and the adjacent country. We were most amply repaid for our labour in ascending. The horizontal view on each side is wonderfully extensive, and the appearance of the lake most singular. I cannot compare it better, than to the subsiding of an immense flood, and at that precise moment, when the land begins to reappear from under the waters; so numerous are the islands, so indented are the shores; the general features however are flat and insipid, and many of the islands are destitute of wood. I must except those facing the seat of Lord Ross, at BELLEISLE, which is by far the richest part of this lake †. This lofty summit is also distin-

* The *Iter* mentions the ruins of a venerable abbey, at two miles beyond *Belturbet*, on the right, near the river.

† A description of this fine seat is given in the *Iter*, page 98.

guished by two *Carnedds*, or raised *tumuli* of stone.

We were obliged to make a very circuitous *detour* to ENNISKILLEN. A new road was begun, but never finished, through a perfectly level country, by which the journey would have been shortened four miles. Cross the River CLODAGH, and see on the left a ruined church, with a small but neat Gothic window; its label springing from human heads: mountains cultivated to a considerable height, but in small patches. On the left is the seat of Lord ENNISKILLEN, a large and high house, built in the prevailing taste of the country*, backed by high ground, and well wooded. A mountain on the left deserves notice, which from the peculiarity of its *strata*, bears the appearance of fortified ground. Another neat looking demesne on the left. ENNISKILLEN at length appears, like a town seated in the midst of the waters, presenting a long range of buildings, extended on the sides of a river. We entered the town, over a stone bridge with lofty arches, near which are the remains of a small castle, and found

* By the *prevailing* taste of the country, I mean a very high house, abounding with a superfluity of windows, bearing more the resemblance of a *manufactory*, than a comfortable *dwelling house*.

good accommodations at the WHITE HART INN, (REED.)

This whole day's journey afforded little variety of country or cultivation; the roads are uniformly good, but rendered tedious by continual ascents and descents, many of which, though short, are steep.

WEDNESDAY 13th AUGUST. From ENNISKILLEN to CHURCH HILL IX MILES. A desire to see the navigation and the islands on LOUGH ERNE, which had been described as well worthy of notice, prompted us to make the first part of this day's journey by water. Having hired a boat with four rowers, we left ENNISKILLEN, and passing under the walls of the castle, and the bridge, we continued for a short time within a narrow channel, and a rapid current. See on the left some castellated ruins, and a staring modern house. The river soon expands itself into the form of a lake, and opens DEVENISH Island, with its round tower. This island, which was the principal object of our water excursion, presents a very naked appearance, being totally destitute of wood: its soil however is uncommonly rich, and produces most abundant crops of corn*. The first monastick

* I was informed by one of our boatmen, who acted as guide, that the whole island was leased out at 28s. per acre, and under-let at the high advance of £.8. per acre for the po-

building that attracted our attention, was the shell of a Gothic church. The roof supporting the tower is groined, and has two holes remaining in it, through which the bell ropes originally passed. The little pointed doorway leading up to the tower, deserves notice, from being excellently well fluted in its angles, and finished the same way at bottom as at top ; a peculiarity I do not recollect ever to have seen before, and producing a light and elegant effect. In the wall adjoining the eastern window, is a stone inscribed with old characters, commemorating perhaps the building of this church, in 1449, by the order of BARTHOLOMEW O'FLANNAGAN, the Prior of DEVENISH. At a short distance from these ruins, is a fine round tower, in perfect preservation *, and remarkable for its

tatoo crop. The same ground afterwards produced two crops of barley, and is now bearing a *second* crop of the most luxuriant oats I ever beheld ; and all without the least additional manure. This extraordinary fertility may in a great measure be accounted for by its former population, and the constant supply of manure given it by the religious inhabitants of the island.

* I fear that within a very short period, future travellers, whose curiosity may lead them to this island, will not have the satisfaction of recording this fine tower, *as in a state of good preservation* ; for some plants growing near its roof, have already caused some of the stones to start from their original position ; and unless they are speedily replaced, and the plants removed, this perfect stone roof must for a certainty fall to the ground,

superior workmanship and decorations: the stones are nicely dove-tailed in many places, and the cornice that separates and distinguishes the roof from the shaft, is richly sculptured. It has (according to the usual custom in these curious buildings) four windows at top, the centre stone of each of which is decorated with a human head. The doorway, which appears to be about six or seven feet from the ground, faces the east; over it is a pointed window, larger than those in the other stories above, which are square-headed: the usual projections for the reception of different floors, are very evident within the turret, and the smooth and well joined surface of the interior walls do great credit to the ancient masons who erected it. Adjoining this round tower, are the fragments of a stone-roofed chapel, which in its more perfect state, I imagine, resembled those before mentioned at KILLALOE, &c. It has a small round-headed entrance door towards the west. This was certainly the original chapel, and perhaps the habitation of the Saint who first sought retirement in this island. A little to the north of these ruins, is a stone coffin on the ground, said to have been the Saint's grave;

and antiquaries will have to lament the downfall of the richest and most beautiful round tower in Ireland.

and the vulgar tradition is, that many people have endeavoured to fit their shapes to it, but have not succeeded. The last building I shall mention, is another church in ruins, which from the style of its architecture, I should suppose to be rather more ancient than the first, but not so old as either the stone roofed chapel, or the round tower. The eastern window is divided into three narrow compartments, with lancet heads, and banded on the inside. These monastick buildings form rather an interesting than a picturesque group, as none of them *individually* are sufficiently grand and varied to form a good subject for the pencil, and the component parts of the foreground and landscape are not good. According to long established tradition, there was a bridge of communication between the eastern part of the island and the main land.

Such are the observations which, during a short visit, I was enabled to make on this island, and its religious buildings. Mr. ARCHDALE, in his *Monasticon*, tells us, “ that St. LASERIAN, called also MOLAISE, built a celebrated monastery, under the invocation of the VIRGIN MARY, in DAIMH-INIS, i. e. the *Or’s Island*. This Saint died A.D. 563, and was succeeded by St. NATALIS, son of ÆNGUSIUS, King of CON-NAUGHT.” He records a series of abbots, to the

year 1462, when the Prior O'FLANNAGAN, mentioned in the inscription, died. In the years 822, 834, and 961, the abbey was plundered by the Danes, and in 1157, and 1360, it was much hurt by fire. The same author thus describes the ruins. "This abbey was a large and curious building, and the workmanship remarkably good; to the east of it stands a beautiful round tower, 76 feet high, and 41 in circumference*; the walls, which are three feet thick, are built of hewn stone, each stone about a foot square, within and without, and with scarcely any cement or mortar; the roof is in the form of a cone, and of the same materials, and finished with one large stone, shaped like a bell, with four windows, (and the form of a man's face over each) near the top, and opposite to the cardinal points; the door is nine feet from the ground. The inside of the building is nearly as smooth as the barrel of a gun, and on the outside, at the base, a circle of stone projects five inches. The church, which is the most easterly building, was large and beautiful, with a noble carved window over the high altar; next to

* *Twiss*, in his *Travels*, p. 102, states the height of this round tower to be 69 feet to the cornice. The conical covering, or cap, 15 feet more. The circumference 48 feet; the thickness of the walls 3 feet 5 inches; and the diameter of the inside 9 feet 2 inches.

this window, to the right, about ten feet above the ground, is the following inscription, the letters and points of which are raised :

MATHEUS O'DUBAGAN *hoc opus fecit* BARTHOLOMEO O'FLANNAGAN *Priori de DAMINIS, A.D. 1449.*

Round this inscription is a frame, somewhat raised, with another inscription on it, which is now illegible. Next to the tower is a vaulted building of hewn stone, which ends in a point, and is called ST. MOLAISE'S House; near to this is his bed, in the shape of a stone coffin, in which he used to pray. The neighbouring inhabitants say, that pains in the back are relieved by lying in this bed. There appear to have been many ancient inscriptions here, but they are all erased and destroyed by time."

Mr. ARCHDALE attributes this building to the Regular Canons; and afterwards mentions another religious establishment, or the PRIORY OR COLIDEI, and adds, "That in the interpolations of the ULSTER annals, at the year 1130, we read, that the Monastery of DAMINIS was founded that year; and remarks, that the author must mean either the repairing of the ancient Monastery of ST. LASERIAN, or the founding of this Priory of the COLIDEI, or Secular

Priests." If the inscription before cited, is exactly copied, and the series of abbots is correct, there can be no doubt but *that* church was the original abbey; and the date of 1449, may commemorate repairs, or perhaps the construction of the eastern window only, not of the whole church; and from its position close to the window, I should rather suppose that to be the case. The ruins of the other church, which are probably those of the Priory of COLIDEI, founded A.D. 1130, seem to have been unknown to Mr. ARCHDALE; at least, they are unnoticed by him.

Leaving DEVENISH Island, we proceeded on our voyage: the shores of LOUGH ERNE continue flat, and cultivated for some distance. On the left are the deserted mansion, and naked demesne of CASTLE HUME, once clothed with the most luxuriant woods. The scenery now begins to improve, particularly on the south west side of the lake, which we coasted near a long and continued line of rich and flourishing copse wood: the islands also bear a more wooded appearance. The soil on the south west side of the Lough, produces lime stone, and no bog; the opposite side has bog, but no lime stone. Saw on the right an island with a church in ruins, and a simple stone cross near it, in good preservation. The usual place of landing, is about three quarters of a mile distant from CHURCH

HILL, and the walk being on high ground, commands an advantageous view of the lake; but the waters were so much agitated, and our boatmen seemed so little experienced in the profession they were now exercising, that we were induced to go on shore two miles short of our destined spot, and to walk from thence to CHURCH HILL.

This small village has derived its name from the situation of its church upon a hill. It has a decent little inn, with a chaise and a few post horses; but not a sufficient number to be depended upon, though our landlord at ENNIS-KILLEN assured us, that *we should meet with no disappointment* in regard to *cavalry*.

Leaving CHURCH HILL, we ascended along the ridge of a steep mountain, enjoying a view of the most magnificent extent of water I ever beheld in our kingdom; and I doubt if the shores of the Lake of GENEVA, in SWITZERLAND, can present a more striking expanse of water. The surrounding scenery is highly appropriate; for the road is confined on the left by a bold line of perpendicular and rocky mountain: larger herds of cattle would render the scene still more animated.

On descending nearly to a level with the lake, the scenery of course becomes tamer. On the opposite shores are the rich woods of CALDWELL CASTLE (described in the *Iter*, p. 102.)

The lake now assumes the appearance of a river, and winds its course through a flat and peaty vale, till it reaches the village of BELLEEK; here the waters reassume their vigour, and rolling furiously over a bed of rock, and forming in their course two fine cataracts, pass under a lofty bridge close to the village. From thence the river continues to flow rapidly for some distance, under perpendicular and well wooded rocks towards BALLYSHANNON, affording some very beautiful scenery, both above and below the bridge. The road from BELLEEK to BALLYSHANNON, presents nothing interesting, (the river being out of sight) except in the immediate approach to the latter place, where the town, divided by a long bridge, appears in a pleasing point of view.

We had naturally made previous inquiry, what sort of accommodations were to be met with at BALLYSHANNON: those we had made during our former route, with respect to inns and post horses, had always been satisfactory in the *first* instance, but often proved dissatisfactory when we came to the point: but in this instance we could draw out no *positive* answer whatever; some pleaded ignorance, others laughed, but no one would so far speak ill of his country, as to give us a *true* account of the inns at BALLYSHANNON. We were therefore in a great degree led to expect but homely fare,

and not the *best* accommodations; and we were certainly not disappointed; for a more dirty inn, and worse attendance, I never met with either abroad or at home: the rooms and beds teemed with every kind of vermin, and a dirty barefooted wench acted as our *femme de chambre* and waiter: good humour, however, and willingness to oblige, [those constant good qualities of the common Irish,] were not wanting on the part of our landlady; but more *essential* comforts were necessary to restore our spirits after a long and tedious day's journey. BALLYSHANNON, however, with all its *disagremens*, is worthy a visit*; for, close to the town, the river falling precipitately over a ridge of black rocks, forms a grand cataract at the spot where it discharges its waters into the sea. The salmon fishery at this place is very productive, and according to the statement of the late *Survey of Donegall*, when last rented, produced annually £.1083. 6s. 8d. and at this present time still more: the eel fishery also lets for £.325. 10s. 6d. yearly. These fisheries are very numerous throughout Ireland, and the

* Any future traveller who would wish to follow my steps in this part of Ireland, may avoid the inconveniences I incurred, by sleeping the first night at *Church Hill*, and the second at *Donegall*, at each of which places, he will find good accommodations; he might also, by this arrangement, find time to see *Castle Caldwell*.

breed of salmon is considered of such high national importance, that all weirs are ordered to be opened, and the fishery discontinued after the 12th of August, that the salmon may have a free passage up the river to deposit their spawn.

The River ERNE, whose course we had followed for so considerable a distance, appears to derive its source from LOUGH GOUNAGH, on the borders of the County of LONGFORD. From thence it flows to BELTURBET, where we first noticed it; below this place it expands itself into a lake, the very singular appearance of which, from KNOCKNINNY hill, I have before described. It again assumes its former shape, and contracting its channel, washes the walls of ENNISKILLEN. From this place it continues its river-like course for a short distance, and then assumes the appearance, sometimes of a lake, sometimes of a spacious river; being thickly studded with large and well wooded islands. A little to the south of CHURCH HILL, it widens into an extensive lough, and so large is its scale, that it seems almost like an inland sea: having skirted the luxuriant woods of CASTLE CALDWELL, it loses at once all its dignity, and flows silently through a flat and boggy vale. At the village of BELLEEK, it takes a totally different character, "*full of sound and fury*," but these are soon spent: it becomes tranquil until

it has passed the bridge at BALLYSHANNON, when it makes another furious effort, and venting with rage, discharges its waters into the sea, over a precipitous cataract. Few rivers possess such variety of feature as the ERNE. It has been considered by the *Northern Irish* as a rival to KILLARNEY; but however it may vie with the southern lake, and indeed surpass it as to *extent* of watery-surface, it can by no means boast either of the same beauty, richness, variety, or sublimity.

Though the accommodations of the inns at BALLYSHANNON are so very bad, yet the town is not inconsiderable. The church is situated upon an eminence at the upper end of it. Only two pair of post horses being kept here, and one pair being pre-engaged, I sent off a messenger to DONEGALL for a supply, which fortunately arrived in time to relieve us from the melancholy prospect of spending a second night at this filthy inn.

THURSDAY 14 AUGUST. From BALLYSHANNON to DONEGALL and BALLIBOFEY XXIII MILES. Between the two former places, the road is good, but hilly, the country very stony. After passing the village of BALLINTRA, it improves in cultivation. See a part of the Bay of DONEGALL, bounded by high mountains, on the left. The road is obliged to make a very winding and circuitous course, in order to avoid the

numerous little hills, with which this tract of country is undulated. We found a good inn at DONEGALL, situated in the market place, and reasonable charges*.

There is something pleasing in the scenery about DONEGALL, and the ruins of an old castellated mansion, with the river, bridge, &c. afford a good subject for the pencil. Immediately adjoining the town, is a small port, and a little lower down, on the banks of the river, are the remains of a Franciscan monastery, founded (according to ARCHDALE) in the year 1474, by ODO ROE, son of NIAL GARBH O'DONNELL, Prince of TYRCONNEL, and by his wife FIONGUALA (*Penelope*) daughter of CONNOR NA FRONA O'BRIEN, Prince of THOMOND. ODO, the founder, died A.D. 1505. In describing this monastick building, Mr. ARCHDALE says: "The cloyster consists of small arches, supported by couplets of pillars on a basement; in one part are two narrow passages, one over the other, about four feet wide, ten long, and seven high; they seem to have been places for depositing valuable effects in times of danger: the upper one is covered with stones,

* Our bill for dinner amounted to six shillings, for three people: for which we had two chickens, mutton chops, two very large lobsters, vegetables, butter, and cheese.

laid along on the beams of stone that cross it, and the lower one with stones laid across on the walls; each of them are exactly after the Egyptian manner of building; and in a building over it, are plain marks of a regular Roman pediment, although some other building had been erected against it.

After dinner, we continued our journey to BALLYBOFEY, where we slept. Land cultivated with oats, potatoes, and flax; the grass not cut, even in this advanced season of the year; cottages built of stone; and in many places turf supplies the place of straw in their coverings.

Near the village of TOWNNAVILLY is a pretty lake on the right, called LOUGH Esk, diversified by islands, and backed by high mountains. The soil on the adjoining hills, is cultivated to some height, but in small portions, as is the case near the road. We now began to ascend towards a pass or gap in the mountains, which had appeared to us very conspicuous during the whole of the day, and expectation stood on tip-toe till we reached it; but this, like many other objects, *viewed by anticipation*, did not, on close inspection, answer our wishes. Though not so bold in its features, as it promised to be, at a distance, it still is a fine wild pass; the hills are rocky and lofty, clad with heath, and watered at their base by a rapid stream; the ascent

long, but gradual, and the road good. Leaving this pass through the BARNSMORE mountains, the scenery becomes very dreary and uninteresting; a level heathy plain, fit only to be inhabited by grouse and black cattle. See a cascade on the left, which seems to come from some lough. Skirt the sides of LOUGH MOURN, a long and narrow lake. The evening closed before we concluded this long and tedious stage, and arrived at BALLIBOFEY, where we found a very clean and comfortable inn, and a good supply of post horses.

FRIDAY 15 AUGUST. From BALLIBOFEY, through RAPHOE to DERRY, XX MILES. Road good. The country improves in cultivation, and the people in their dress; the soil is cultivated with oats, bere, potatoes, and flax; but little wood; hills longer, and not so frequent. During the interval of baiting our horses at a decent little inn (the MITRE) we examined the Cathedral Church of RAPHOE*.

* *Raphoe*, a small town, which gives name to the Barony. *St. Columb* founded an extensive monastery at *Rathboth*, and died the 9th of June, A. D. 596. *St. Adannan*, Abbot of *Hy*, and patron and restorer of this monastery, died the 23d of September, A. D. 703, about which time *Raphoe* became and continues to be the seat of a bishop.

Archdale, p. 104.

The author of the *Iter* differs respecting the foundation of this cathedral; he says it was founded by *St. Eunan*, about the mid-

It has no antique architecture to boast of, having been modernized both within and without, and neatly pewed. A cross, celebrated for the performance of miracles, stood formerly in the cathedral, but was removed to ARMAGH, about the year 1438, by Bishop O'GALCHOR*. The episcopal palace adjoins the church, and the residence of the Dean is a little way out of the town.

Leaving RAPHOE, we continued our journey towards DERRY. Road rough, and more hilly, till we joined the great tract leading to STRABANE, which we saw at some distance to the south, at the extremity of a fine vale, watered by the River FOYLE. Pass ST. JOHN'S-TOWN, and at two miles from DERRY, descend towards the river, from whence the city, pleasantly situated on a verdant knoll (under which the FOYLE takes a most magnificent curving sweep), opens to great advantage; road very bad near the town. There are two inns in BISHOP'S STREET, adjoining the city gates; MURRAY'S on the left, WALKER'S on the right, at the for-

dle of the sixth century, and that a cathedral was erected on the ruins of the church of *St. Eunan*, in the eleventh century.

* The author of the *Statistical Survey of Armagh*, has given a view of an ancient cross existing in that capital, but takes no notice of its removal from *Raphoe*.

mer of which, we found good accommodations, and post horses. The same kind of tillage prevails between RAPHOE and DERRY, with an occasional field of wheat. The females were busily employed in their flax harvest, which emits a most nauseous smell when spread on the ground to dry.

The evening was employed in surveying the town, cathedral, &c. &c. The city is walled, and its elevated terrace affords a dry and pleasant walk: it has one handsome street, leading down to the port, with the Exchange in the centre. The Cathedral is a large and neat building, partaking of the castellated as well as ecclesiastical architecture, being turretted and embattled at the eastern angles: its style is that which was in vogue about the reign of K. HENRY VIII. A tower is at this time building, in order to support a steeple, which, on account of its threatening appearance, was prudently taken down. The only inscription, worth recording, is the following:

" If stones could speak, then London's praise would sound,
Who built this church and city from the ground. 1638.

Some renovated white or French banners, recording the bravery of the citizens of DERRY, in the year 1689, are suspended on each side of

the altar*. The long wooden bridge over the river, is a singularly striking object, particularly when you are upon it.

The following account of its construction has been given in the *Statistical Survey of Derry*:
“ This bridge was constructed by LEMUEL COX, of BOSTON, in NORTH AMERICA ; it was completed in the space of 13 months : in length it is 1068 feet, in breadth 40 feet : the piers consist of oak from 14 to 18 inches square, and from 14 to 58 feet long ; the head of each post is tenanted into a cap piece, 14 inches square, and 40 feet long, supported by three sets of girths and braces ; the piers, which are distant from each other $16\frac{1}{4}$ feet, are bound together by 13 string-pieces, equally divided, and trans-

* A very interesting account of this memorable siege, was written by the Rev. *George Walker*, and republished at *Dublin*, A.D. 1736, it concludes thus :

“ Thus, after 105 days, being close besieged by near 20,000 men, constantly supplied from *Dublin*, God Almighty was pleased, in our greatest extremity, to send relief, to the admiration and joy of all good people, and to the great disappointment of so powerful and inveterate an enemy, who were concerned in point of interest, as well as reputation, to have rendered themselves masters of the town.

“ The enemy lost between 8, or 9000 men before our walls, and 100 of their best officers, according to the best computation we could make of both, by the information of the prisoners we took, &c.”

versely bolted; on the string-pieces is laid the flooring; to each side of the platform is affixed a railing $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high; inside railings are also made to guard the foot passengers; 26 lamp-posts are arranged along the sides of the bridge. Between the middle of the bridge and the end next the city, a draw-arch has been constructed, of which all the machinery is worked under the floor of the bridge. The greatest depth of the river at low water is 31 feet, and the rise of the tide is from eight to ten feet."

The same author, in his survey of the county, has given the following description of the City of DERRY. "The form of the city is that of a parallelogram, whose longest sides range from north-east to south-west, and the shortest, north-east to south-east. It has four main streets within the walls; each of these commencing at the Diamond, a public square, terminates at a gate, to which it gives its name. The length of the city, within the walls, from BISHOP'S-GATE, to SHIP-QUAY Gate, is 1273 feet; the breadth, from FERRY-QUAY Gate to BUTCHER'S-GATE, is 635 feet. The main streets cross at right angles; the smaller streets and lanes, in general, follow the same arrangement. The streets are well paved and lighted, but neither these, nor the roads, are sufficiently level, to make the use of carriages convenient.

The cathedral was erected under the direction of SIR JOHN VAUGHAN, in 1633. About twenty years ago, under the auspices of the EARL OF BRISTOL, the Bishop of the diocese, a very beautiful spire of cut freestone, was erected on the tower of the original steeple; but unfortunately, the weight of this new building, pressed upon the gathering of the arches, which were sprung to support it, and rendered its situation so precarious and alarming, that it was deemed prudent to take it down again." The stones of this steeple are all numbered, and it is intended to reerect the spire, as soon as the tower, destined to support it, is completed.

Those who wish for more complete information respecting the ancient state of the city of LONDONDERRY, may consult Mr. HARRIS's *Hibernica*, where a minute account is given of the city, from a survey made by PYNNAIR, in the year 1618.

Mr. ARCHDALE records the existence of several monastick buildings at DERRY; of which the Abbey of Canons Regular, founded by ST. COLUMB, in the sixth century, was the most celebrated. This author has given a series of its abbots, from that early period to the year 1531. He also mentions a Convent of Dominicans, founded A.D. 1274; a Franciscan Friary, and a Nunnery of the Cistercian Order, found-

ed in 1218 ; but of all these religious establishments, I could not learn that any vestiges remained at present.

The houses in DERRY are built chiefly of brick ; the Bishop's Palace, now fitting up, is in the principal street ; and the Dean's residence is nearly opposite. Over the City Gate, in Bishop's Street, are two heads, well sculptured in stone.

SATURDAY 16 AUGUST. From DERRY to NEWTOWN LIMAVADY, XIII MILES. On looking back, see a pleasing view of DERRY, and its long-extended bridge. The lough appears to great advantage on the left. See at some distance its *embouchure*, bounded by a bold and precipitate hill towards the north. At MILE IX is a seat of the BERESFORD family : fine approach to the house, through a wood of stately oaks, and a rich underwood of holly, &c. LOUGH FOYLE in front. At BALLYKELLY is a new church, the *head* of which is too large for its *body*. Lose sight of the Lough ; mud cottages reappear. We baited our horses at NEWTOWN LIMAVADY, a neat looking town, with wide streets, built upon an eminence ; a decent inn (BLAIR'S HOTEL.) Road good and wide ; little variety in the general state of cultivation.

From thence we took the new road to COLERAINE, X MILES, over a long and tedious mountain, which affords an extensive view of

LOUGH FOYLE, and the distant country. Having reached the *apex* of the mountain, we traversed a dreary tract of wild and boggy ground to COLERAINE. I observed during this day's journey several earthen works and *carneys*, dispersed over the hills and plains, and a very fine one of the former description on the river near COLERAINE.

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY.

SUNDAY 17 AUGUST. Our intended plans, and high expectations, were considerably deranged, by the very unfavourable appearance of the morning. Our curiosity to see this far-famed wonder of the North, was great and urgent; and the very idea of moping within our dull quarters, at COLERAINE, was too much for us to support: we proceeded therefore on our journey to the CAUSEWAY, which is distant from COLERAINE eight long miles. No one object on this tract intervenes, either to amuse the eye, or divert the attention; they must feed by *anticipation* on the natural curiosities they have in view. Passing by the shell of a large church in ruins, we came to the little village of BUSH MILLS, situated on the River BUSH, which falls over a weir near the bridge; we stopped at a cottage, not far distant from the

CAUSEWAY, where we found a room for ourselves, and stabling for our horses.

About twelve o'clock, the clouds dispersed, and the heavens seem disposed to favour our expedition. Of things so much talked of, we are too apt to form exaggerated ideas, for "*omne ignotum pro magnifico est*," and I know of none, whose praises have been so much vaunted as the LAKE OF KILLARNEY and the GIANT'S CAUSEWAY; the Southern and Northern wonders of Ireland. When such *gigantic* epithets are applied to objects, we of course expect to see nature decked in her grandest and most horrid attire; and the idea which my imagination had formed concerning the CAUSEWAY, was that of a high and extensive range of basaltic columns, stretching forth boldly into the sea, like a stately pier; but from its flatness, the CAUSEWAY is totally overlooked, until pointed out by your guide: its detail, however, when examined on the spot, is extremely curious. The surrounding mountains, though rather on a large scale, are not sufficiently varied to give them a *beautiful* appearance, or columnar enough to give them an *imposing* one: in short, the whole of this scenery will prove more satisfactory to the natural philosopher, and mineralogist, than to the artist. Having never studied mineralogy, I feel totally incompetent to give either a just or ade-

quate description of this great natural curiosity; but my readers will have no cause to lament my inability, when I lay before them an account of the CAUSEWAY and its basaltes, drawn up by the Rev. WILLIAM HAMILTON, in his *Letters concerning the Northern Coast of Antrim*.

“The CAUSEWAY itself, is generally described as a mole or quay, projecting from the base of a steep promontory, some hundred feet into the sea, and is formed of perpendicular pillars of basaltes, which stand in contact with each other, exhibiting a sort of polygon pavement, somewhat resembling the appearance of a solid honeycomb. The pillars are irregular prisms, of various denominations, from three to eight sides *; but the hexagonal columns are as numerous as all the others together.

“On a minute inspection, each pillar is found to be separable into several joints, whose articulation is neat and compact beyond expression; the convex termination of one joint, always meeting a concave socket in the next;

* Mr. *Faujas de St. Fond*, took much pains to search for pillars of nine sides, amongst the basaltes of Viverais, in consequence of the account which Mr. *Molyneux* and Mr. *de Lisle* gave, that such were to be found; but there is little doubt that both these gentlemen were mistaken; none of that denomination are to be discovered at the *Giant's Causeway*, or in the neighbourhood; indeed octagonal pillars can very rarely be met with.

besides which, the angles of one frequently shoot over those of the other, so that they are completely locked together, and can rarely be separated without a fracture of these parts.

"The sides of each column are unequal amongst themselves, but the contiguous sides of adjoining columns, are always of equal dimensions, so as to touch in all their parts.

"Though the angles be of various magnitudes, yet the sum of the contiguous angles of adjoining pillars, always makes up four right ones; so that there are no void spaces among the basaltes; the surface of the CAUSEWAY exhibiting to view, a regular and compact pavement of polygon stones.

"The outside covering is soft, and of a brown colour, being the earthy parts of the stone, nearly deprived of its metallic principle by the action of the air, and of the marine acid which it receives from the sea*."

Having spent a few hours in examining the CAUSEWAY, we visited a cavern in a little bay to the westward, and not far from the cottage where we had left our chaise. Here the artist will find a grand subject for his pencil, which I

* This coating contains iron which has lost its *phlogiston*, and is nearly reduced to a state of *calx*; for, with a very moderate heat, it becomes of a bright red ochre colour, the attendant of an iron earth.

was prevented taking, by a violent and dangerous fall in getting into the cavern*. This subterraneous grotto, into which the sea roars with great violence, is certainly worth notice: its entrance has been shut up, (and I have reason to think, unlawfully) in order to claim from strangers an admittance fee.

MONDAY 18 AUGUST. I varied my road to BUSH MILLS, in order to view DUNLUCE Castle. See PORT RUSH on the left, and at a greater distance, DOWN HILL, a magnificent house, built by LORD BRISTOL, the late Bishop of DERRY †, and situated on the edge of the sea, not far from the entrance to LOUGH FOYLE. I observed some rude basaltes or columnar stones on the hills to the right, and saw several of their joints employed in the construction of the neighbouring houses. There is a fine sea prospect on this coast; bounded by a long range of the DONEGALL mountains. Not far to the westward of DUNLUCE, is a fine rock of lime stone, as white as chalk, great quantities

* I mention this circumstance as a caution to future travellers, whose curiosity may lead them into this subterraneous grotto. The approach is dark, and the wall which separates the interior from the adit, is very slippery, and should be surmounted with caution.

† See a description of *Down Hill* (with a view) in the *Statistical Survey of Derry*.

of which are burned in kilns, and used as manure.

DUNLUCE, at first sight, presents only an unseemly pile of ruins, like those of a village destroyed; but on a nearer approach, its situation becomes truly striking, and indeed majestic, when viewed from the sea shore at its base. Its position is one of the boldest I have ever witnessed, and gives a degree of grandeur to the ruins, which in a less commanding situation, might perhaps pass unnoticed.

The picture of this castle has been so ably drawn by the ingenious Mr. HAMILTON, that I shall again waive any description of my own.

“ There are three or four old castles along the coast, situated in places extremely difficult of access, but their early histories are for the greater part lost. The most remarkable of these is the Castle of DUNLUCE, which is at present in possession of the ANTRIM family. It is situated in a singular manner on an isolated abrupt rock, perforated by the waves, which have formed under it a very spacious cavern. This rock projects into the sea, and seems as it were split off from the *terra firma*. Over the immediate chasm lies the only approach to the castle, along a narrow wall, which has been built somewhat like a bridge, connecting it to the adjoining land; and this circumstance must have rendered it almost impregnable before the

invention of artillery. On close examination, it appears that there was originally another wall, which ran across the chasm, parallel to the former, and that by laying boards over these, an easy passage might occasionally be made for the benefit of the garrison.

“The walls of this castle are built of columnar basaltes, many joints of which are placed in such a manner as to show their polygon sections; and in one of the windows of the north side, the architect has contrived to splay off the wall neatly enough, by making use of the joints of a pillar, whose angle was sufficiently obtuse to suit his purpose.

“The original lord of this castle and its territories, was an Irish chief, called, M'QUILLAN; of whom little is known, except that, like most of his countrymen, he was hospitable, brave, and improvident; unwarily allowing the Scots to grow in strength, until they contrived to beat him out of all his possessions.”

Some further accounts of this castle may be collected from the Life of SIR JOHN PERROT, who, being Lord Deputy of IRELAND, encamped before DUNLUSE, and besieged it, being one of the strongest pieces within the realm of IRELAND; “for it is situate upon a rock, hanging over the sea, divided from the mayne, with a deep rock ditch, natural and not artificial, and having no way to it but a small neck of

the same rock, which is also cut off very deep. It had in it then a strong ward, whereof the captain was a Scottishman, who, when the Deputy sent to him to yield, refused parley, and answered (speaking very good English) "that they would keep it to the last man;" which made the Deputy draw near thither, and plant a battery of culverines and cannon before it, which being brought by sea to SKIRRIES PORT RUSH, the Lord Deputy caused to be drawn thither, (being two miles off from DUNLUSE) by force of men, wherein he spared not the labour of his own servants; and when small shot played so thick out of the fort, that the common soldiers began to shrink in planting of the artillery, the Lord Deputy made his own men fill the gabions with earth, and make good the ground, until the ordinance was planted, and the trenches made. This being done, the Lord Deputy himself gave fire to the first piece of ordinance, and discharged it, which did no great hurt; but shortly after, it being better shaken, the next morning (after that they had over-night felt a little the force of the battery) they sent unto the Lord Deputy to be received unto mercy, whereunto he condescended the rather, because he would save the charges of repairing again that piece, which otherwise he must have beat down, and for that he would

not spend the provision, weaken the forces, and hinder the rest of the services then intended, by lying long before one fort; and therefore he granted them life, and liberty to depart."

P. 160. This fort was afterwards lost by the treachery of its governor, which is thus recorded by the same biographer: "Withall there happening an accident of the loss of DUNLUSE, (which the Deputy had won, and placed a ward therein) he advertised the same unto the Privy Council after his manner. When he first took that pile, he placed a pensioner, called PETER CARY, to be constable of it, with a ward of xiv soldiers, thinking him to be of the English pale or race; but afterwards found that he was of the CAREWS in the north. This constable, reposing trust in those of his country and kindred, had gotten some of them unto him, and discharged the English soldiers unknown to the Deputy: two of these having confederated with the enemies, drew up fifty of them in the night, by ropes made of withies. Having surprized the castle, they assaulted a little tower, wherein the constable was, and a few with him; they at first offered them life, and to put them in any place they would desire; (for so had the traitors conditioned with them before;) but the constable, willing to pay the price of his folly, chose rather to forego his life

with the place in very many sort, than to yield unto any such conditions, and was slain. This transaction happened about the year 1585."

Many interesting and striking views might be taken of this castle in its different aspects, by the artist who has time and inclination at his command. The subterraneous cavern which perforates the rock on which the fortress stands, is also worthy of remark.

From DUNLUCE, I went to BUSH MILLS, and from thence to my former halting place near the CAUSEWAY, where I procured a horse, and rode over a smooth and level down to CAPE PLEASKIN, distant about a mile and a half from the cottage. Here I met with those *gigantic* features which I had been led to expect at the CAUSEWAY. From a natural seat on this cape, I had a truly astonishing and pleasing view of three successive promontories, or headlands, retiring in gradual perspective; their upper surface level and uniform; their base broken in the most fantastic forms. Such is the view looking westward; the more minute particulars of which I shall extract from the work of the same able author, to whom I have been indebted for former descriptions of this coast. To the eastward the view is no less interesting; presenting in the foreground, the verdant headland of BENGORE, and at a distance the more barren one of FAIRHEAD, with RAGHERY Island;

beyond which, I distinctly saw the heights of the Western Isles in SCOTLAND* ; for a clearer and more advantageous day for distant prospects never shone upon travellers.

This line of coast is thus admirably and correctly described by Mr. HAMILTON : “ The leading features of this whole coast, are the two great promontories of BENGORE and FAIRHEAD, which stand at the distance of eight miles from each other ; both formed on an extensive scale, both abrupt towards the sea, and abundantly exposed to observation ; and each, in its kind, exhibiting noble arrangements of the different species of columnar basaltes.

“ The former of these, (BENGORE) lies about seven miles west of BALLYCASTLE, and is generally described by seamen, who see it at a distance, and in profile, as an extensive headland, running out from the coast a considerable length into the sea ; but, strictly speaking, it is made up of a number of lesser capes and bays, each with its own proper name, the *tout ensemble* of which forms what the seamen denominate the headland of BENGORE.

“ These capes are composed of variety of different ranges of pillars, and a great number of *strata* ; which, from the abruptness of the

* I imagine the very high mountains to be those called the *Paps of Jura*, in an island of the same name.

coast, are extremely conspicuous, and form an unrivalled pile of natural architecture, wherein all the neat regularity and elegance of art, is united to the wild magnificence of nature.

“The most perfect of these capes is called PLEASKIN, whose summit is covered with a thin grassy sod, under which lies the natural basaltic rock, having generally a hard surface, somewhat cracked and shivered. At the depth of ten or twelve feet from the summit, this rock begins to assume a columnar tendency, and forms a range of massy pillars of basaltes, which stand perpendicular to the horizon, presenting, in the sharp face of the promontory, the appearance of a magnificent gallery, or colonnade, upward of sixty feet in height. This colonnade is supported on a solid base of coarse, black, irregular rock, near sixty feet thick, abounding in blebs and air holes; but though comparatively irregular, it may be evidently observed to affect a peculiar figure, tending in many places to run into regular forms, resembling the shooting of salts, and many other substances, during a hasty crystallization.

“Under this great bed of stone, stands a second range of pillars, between forty and fifty feet in height, less gross, and more sharply defined than those of the upper story; many of them, on a close view, emulating even the neat-

ness of the columns in the GIANT'S CAUSEWAY. This lower range is borne on a layer of red ochre stone, which serves as a relief to show it to great advantage.

“These two admirable natural galleries, together with the interjacent mass of irregular rock, form a perpendicular height of one hundred and seventy feet ; from the base of which, the promontory, covered over with rock and grass, slopes down to the sea for the space of two hundred feet more, making, in all, a mass of near four hundred feet in height, which in beauty and variety of its colouring, in elegance and novelty of arrangement, and in the extraordinary magnitude of its objects, cannot readily be rivalled by any thing of the kind at present known.

“Though there are but two complete ranges of pillars visible in any of the promontories, yet it is not improbable that there may be many more in succession, at various depths under ground ; and this opinion is confirmed by columnar marks, which can be traced in several rocks that lie in the sea. The CAUSEWAY itself is situated at the base of one of these capes, on the level of the beach, and appears as part of a columnar bed, that has been accidentally stripped and washed, during a long course of years, by rains and the waves of the ocean.

“The pillars of the whole headland of BENGORE, appear naturally to affect a perpendicular situation, and in a few places where they lie in an inclined posture, it seems to be the effect of some external cause, which has deranged them from their original disposition. Indeed, where the forms of crystallization are imperfect, they may be seen to shoot in various directions, and sometimes in irregular curves; but in most of these instances, the columnar outline is very rude and unfinished.

“It is worth while remarking, that the ranges of pillars are more perfect, in proportion as they lie deeper in the ground; the second range in PLEASKIN is evidently better finished than the upper one, and contains much fewer irregularities in the grain of its stone; while the pillars of the CAUSEWAY, which runs into the sea itself, have still a greater sharpness in their figure, and are more close and uniform in their texture. Such is the general outline of this great headland, affording objects extremely interesting to every one, who may wish to study nature in her bold and uncommon works.

“As this cape exhibits a copious variety of basaltic substances, distinctly marked in their appearances and relative situations, and capable of being attentively examined, it may be

proper to enumerate, with more precision, the different fossils which it contains, and their relative position. It should be observed, that the *strata*, considered within a small space, appear pretty nearly horizontal, although the descent of the promontory, and of the coast, generally taken, be in reality from the sea toward the land. The mean height of this northern coast, and of the country contiguous to it, probably equals 1000 feet; yet the surface of LOUGH NEAGH, situated in the midst of this part of IRELAND, is not elevated more than 38 feet above the ocean.

STRATA AT CAPE PLEASKIN.

- No. 1. Summit, irregular basaltes, shivered and cracked at the surface. 12 feet.
2. Perpendicular range of gross pillars, containing air holes. 60 feet.
3. Gross bed of rude basaltes, showing marks of a tendency towards forms, resembling an imperfect crystallization. 60 feet.
4. Second range of regular pillars, neat, and divided into joints. 40 feet.

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|--------|---|--|----------|
| No. 5. | { | Bed of red argillaceous ochre, on which the second range of pillars rests. | |
| 6. | { | A thin course of iron ore amid the bed of ochre. | |
| 7. | { | Soft argillaceous stone, of various colours, and a mottled appearance, friable, and resembling a variety of steatites. | 22 feet. |
8. Succession of five or six gross beds of table basaltes, between which, thin strata of ochre and other substances occur.
- 180 feet.
- Total 374 feet.

Total height of the cliff, from the summit to the base, 374 feet.

“At the distance of eight miles from CAPE PLEASKIN, the promontory of FAIRHEAD* raises its lofty summit more than five hundred feet above the sea, forming the eastern termination of BALLYCASTLE Bay It presents to view

* This promontory is styled, by *Ptolemy*, the ancient geographer, *Robogdium Promontorium*, and inserted as such in his Map of Ireland.

a vast mass of rude columnar stones, the forms of which are extremely gross, many of them exceeding two hundred feet in length, and the texture so coarse, as to resemble an imperfect compact granite, rather than the uniform fine grain of the GIANT'S CAUSEWAY basaltes. These pillars do not at first view appear to have any marks of articulation; but on observing such as have fallen down from the top of FAIR-HEAD, they are found to be often separated into pretty regular joints by the force of the fall. At the base of these gigantic columns, lies a wild waste of natural ruins, of an enormous size, which in the course of successive ages, have been tumbled down from their foundation, by storms, or some more powerful operations of nature. These massive bodies have sometimes withstood the shock of their fall, and often lie in groups and clumps of pillars, resembling many of the varieties of artificial ruins, and forming a very novel and striking landscape.

“A savage wildness characterizes this great promontory, at the foot of which the ocean rages with uncommon fury. Scarce a single mark of vegetation has yet crept over the hard rock, to diversify its colouring, but one uniform greyness clothes the scene all around. Upon the whole, it makes a fine contrast with the beautiful capes of BENGORE; where the varied brown shades of the pillars, enlivened by the

red and green tints of the ochre and grass, cast a degree of life and cheerfulness over the different objects *."

Much more time would be required than we could at present spare, to examine this interesting coast with the attention it demands. I think a fortnight might be both agreeably and usefully spent in this neighbourhood. The traveller should fix his quarters at the village of BUSH MILLS, where a new and clean inn has lately been established. From this point the coast might be surveyed leisurely, and without fatigue; for here, as well as at KILLARNEY, the *detail* should be most particularly attended to; and especially that part of the coast between the CAUSEWAY and CAPE PLEASKIN: this cannot be done safely without the assistance of a boat, and the *certainty* of a settled weather and a calm sea. I say *safely*, because the path leading down to the base of the cliffs, can be deemed *sure footing* only to the barefooted natives. DUNLUCE also should be viewed

* No tourist should visit the *Causeway* unaccompanied by Mr. *Hamilton's Letters on the Coast of Antrim*, second edition, which is more copious than the first, in which, a person untutored in the deep science of mineralogy, will find all the information he can desire, conveyed in the most clear and simple terms. This worthy man fell a sacrifice to popular fury, during the rebellion in 1798.

in each direction from the shore, both near and at a distance. A longer digression should be made on the coast eastward to BALLINGTOY, where there is a curious bridge of ropes*; and extended from thence to BALLYCASTLE and FAIRHEAD. From the former of these places, one day's journey will convey you along the coast to GLENARM; and a second day by LARNE to BELFAST. I regretted very much being unable to take this line of road, which had been strongly recommended to me for its natural beauties; but the uncertainty of finding a relay of post horses, and the many delays and disappointments I had met with on that score, induced me to return to DUBLIN by the more frequent, though less interesting, road of communication.

To those who have little time, and little curiosity, three days would suffice to have a general view of this coast. On the first day, DUNLUCE Castle and the CAUSEWAY might be visited; on the second, CAPE PLEASKIN; and a third day would complete the line of coast to BALLINGTOY, BALLYCASTLE, and FAIRHEAD.

There is nothing very particular to arrest the attention of the tourist at COLERAINE. The

* This bridge is usually taken down the end of August, when the salmon fishery, for which purpose it is constructed, ceases.

town is considered as the second in point of size within the county, and carries on a considerable trade in linen goods. It consists principally of one long street; in the centre, and near the upper end of which, is the market house, and beyond it, the church, surrounded by some fine sycamore trees. This street is intercepted by the River BANN, a fine broad stream, influenced by the tide, over which there is a wooden bridge, supported on stone piers. Below the bridge, is an old fashioned house of Mr. JACKSON, with some well wooded grounds on the banks of the river; above it there is a very pleasant walk to the salmon leap, where the river makes a very considerable, and rather a picturesque fall. On the right hand of the road, leading to the river, is a *tumulus*; and continuing my walk, I had a very advantageous view of another fine earthen work, boldly situated on the opposite banks of the river, and partly covered with wood. This is the same work I noticed on my approach to COLERAINE, and is one of the largest I have met with in IRELAND. This salmon leap, or fishery, belongs to Sir GEORGE HILL, and (as I was told) lets for the annual rent of £.1000. The main stream is always left open for the free passage of the fish up the river; but, on the 12th of August, the fishery ceases, and all the other weirs are opened. The salmon are caught in a trap of

basketwork, (like those used in rivers for taking eels) through which the salmon passes, and as it is the nature of this fish to fight always against the stream, he never thinks of a retreat. I saw many of them leaping, and was informed, by the people at the weir, that the fly fishing was excellent, and seldom refused to gentlemen on application at a proper season of the year.

WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST. From COLERAINE to BALLYMONEY VII MILES. Road good, and not hilly. See a round earthen work, and pass a fine reach of the River BANN upon the right; cultivation nearly the same; some meadows manured with raw lime unmixed with earth. BALLYMONEY is a neat little town, well built with stone, and slated roofs; a decent inn, with post horses.

From BALLYMONEY to AHOUGHILL XIV MILES. Road not quite so good as during the former stage; rough in parts; no hills of consequence; several high and low earthen works are dispersed about the country: cultivation continues the same. We procured a pair of horses from each of the little inns at AHOUGHILL, and proceeded on our journey to ANTRIM, XII MILES. Passed two earthen works nearly opposite each other: same kind of cultivation; scanty crops of oats. At RANDLESTOWN, we turned off to the right, and entered the demesne of LORD O'NEILL; but the park gates being

locked, we left our carriage, and walked, first to SHANE'S CASTLE, and afterwards to ANTRIM. The park is extensive and wild, its finest feature is the River MAINE, which flows in a broad and rapid channel, between finely wooded banks, and empties its waters into LOUGH NEAGH.

SHANE'S CASTLE, the ancient seat of the O'NEILL family, is placed immediately on the shores of the lake, whose waves beat against its walls; it is an old castle modernized, or rather a modern mansion attached to an old fort: its situation is bold; but its architectural design far from picturesque or appropriate. Improvements, both in gardening and farming, are advancing here most rapidly; a fine kitchen garden, with all its luxurious and glassy appendages, and very extensive and commodious farm offices have lately been erected.

In proceeding towards ANTRIM, we coasted the lake for above a mile; and by the assistance of a car, crossed over an inlet of it, which shortened our walk very considerably. This lough bears more the appearance of an inland sea, than of a piece of fresh water, as its distant horizontal line is terminated by the sky, and no land boundary is visible. Its shores are flat, and the surrounding country presents no grandeur of character or feature. It is said to be one of the

largest lakes in Europe; but writers differ about its dimensions. It is stated, by the author of the *Iter*, to be 20 miles long, and 15 broad; and though fed by six considerable rivers, and four of lesser note, it has but one narrow outlet. But the most accurate account of the lough, seems to be the one given in the *Statistical Survey of the County of Armagh*, published in 1804, which I shall here transcribe: "This immense sheet of water, which may well be styled a sea, in comparison with all the other lakes in IRELAND, covers a great area, in the heart of the province, (ARMAGH) and is bounded by five counties, viz. ARMAGH on the south, TYRONE on the west, LONDONDERRY on the north-west, ANTRIM on the north and east, and DOWN, which barely touches it on the south-eastern angle. Small as this angle is, yet on the confines of the lake, there is no district, which more materially suffers from its inundations, which here have sometimes overflowed an extensive plain, above seven or eight miles in land, and produced the most mischievous effects.

"In all the old maps of IRELAND, it has been stated, that LOUGH NEAGH covers a plain of 100,000 acres; but the survey made by Mr. LENDRICK, directly contradicts this statement, and reduces its contents nearly to one half; to

that of 58,200 acres *. This gentleman also corrects the figure of the lake, which, he asserts, was laid down as incorrectly as the area ; and by his report, it is fifteen miles in length, by seven in breadth.

“ It becomes a matter of surprise, that so immense a body of water, which is supplied by the constant influx of several great rivers, and numberless others of lesser note, should have but one narrow channel, from whence these are again discharged ; and we should expect on this account, that inundations were so frequent, as to depopulate its shores ; but this seldom occurs ; perhaps a great overflow will not occur above once in fifteen years.

“ Where the shore is flat, it is subject to every flood, and its banks are always marshy, and incapable, from their low situations, of being drained ; and a great extent is of this description ; in some few places, the coast is bold and abrupt, but entirely destitute of wood, which would be so beautiful a contrast to the lake, although the stumps and roots of trees which have been found in several places, prove, that formerly the shores must have been covered with forest ; nor are there any of the delightful interruptions which KILLARNEY and LOUGH

*A map of *Lough Neagh*, with its bearings, and soundings, from actual survey, is given in the *Survey of Armagh*.

ERNE are celebrated for, by the breaks formed in the prospect, with rocky and wooded islands, presenting irregular and undulating surfaces; all here is an *unvaried sameness*, no picturesque views, or romantic scenery, and but two islands in this great expanse, one near the shore, in the south-western angle of the lake, called BLACK-WATER ISLAND, just at the mouth of the river of the same name; and the other on the eastern borders, contiguous to the coast of ANTRIM, named RAM ISLAND, and in this is one of the ancient round towers peculiar to IRELAND.

“The channel, through which this great body of water seeks its passage to the ocean, is called the Lower BAN river, and flows in that extensive confine, between LONDONDERRY and ANTRIM counties, nearly in a direction from south to north, for a line of about thirty miles in length, including its curvatures and angles, and is discharged into the ocean, four miles below COLERAINE.”

This lake is productive of a great variety of fish; salmon, a large kind of trout, bream, perch, and the pollen, which is the same as the *ferra*, of the Lake of GENEVA, and the *gwy-niad* of BALA lake in North Wales: they are brought daily to market at ANTRIM, and sell for three pence the pound.

In our way to ANTRIM, we passed a neglected mansion house of the MASSARENE family, seated on the banks of a small river. There is a tolerably good inn, with post horses, (CRAWFORD'S) at ANTRIM, which, like the generality of Irish towns, consists of one long street, with the market place in the middle of it.

THURSDAY 21 AUGUST. From ANTRIM to BELFAST XII MILES. A tedious and dreary stage over the WHITE MOUNTAINS: road rough in parts. See on the left a round tower rising from a grove of trees, its roof apparently perfect. Manufactories, and a greater appearance of commerce. The earthen works, both high and low, appear more frequent than heretofore: some stand very near each other, and one (if not two) are intersected by the road. The cultivation is nearly the same, scanty crops of oats, potatoes, and flax: pastures neglected; little lime is used, though much is made. A thick fog prevented our seeing the only interesting view which this whole track affords, and which (according to the *Iter*) comprehends four counties, and as many lakes. On descending this mountain, BELFAST soon opens; the fields white with linen, the country bespread by numerous manufactories; in short, a commercial air enlivens the whole scenery. We found excellent accommodations at WILSON'S HOTEL.

The town of BELFAST has more attractions

to the merchant than to the antiquary : it has some good streets, but no public buildings particularly worthy of remark ; the houses are in general built with brick, and the roofs covered with slate.

FRIDAY 22 AUGUST. From BELFAST to HILLSBOROUGH XII MILES. Road excellent, and not hilly. Cross a long bridge, of 19 or 20 arches, over the River LAGAN. The city appears to great advantage on a retrospective view, backed by a fine range of mountains : one of which presents a very bold and rugged outline. The general face of the country bears a cheerful aspect, and very different from what we had hitherto seen ; it is thickly studded with gentlemen's seats, and whitened houses ; the land also is better cultivated, and an occasional field of wheat is seen. Pass on the right a neglected seat of LORD DUNCANNON ; and leave the town of LISBURN in the same direction *.

* The author of the *Statistical Survey of Down*, amongst other Druidical remains, mentions a *Cromlech*, in the *Giant's Ring*, near the Church of *Drumbo*, on the summit of a hill between *Belfast* and *Lisburn*. "The altar, consisting of a rude incumbent stone of seven feet by six and a half, is supported by ranges of rude pillars, and close to it, some fixed stones still remain of considerable size ; the supporters are from two to three and a half feet high, and the covering stone formerly an inclined plane. The inclosure, in the centre of which stands this altar, is circular, one third of a mile in circumference : the rampart which surrounds it, sloping on each side, instead of ending in a

HILLSBOROUGH is a small town, with an excellent inn, and every convenience of post horses, &c. The MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE has a seat immediately adjoining the market place. His predecessor erected at his own expence an elegant Gothic church, which has some neat windows, bordered with stained glass. There is also a handsome market house, and a small castle appropriated to modern uses. The town is pleasantly situated on an eminence, commanding an extensive view towards BELFAST.

SATURDAY 23d AUGUST. From HILLSBOROUGH to LORD RODEN's Seat at TOLLYMORE PARK XXI MILES. Passed through BALLYNAHINCH, a small town: road good; country uninteresting. From thence, by a new road, to CLOUGH, through a most dreary, wild, and stony country. See on the left some ruined walls on a raised earthen work. From CLOUGH we descended towards DUNDRUM Bay; the

point, is sufficiently wide for two to ride a-breast; the whole is so proportioned, that a person standing near the altar, can only see the inclosure and the sky: in that situation, and alone, he cannot but feel a degree of awe, from the idea of total seclusion, which strikes upon his mind, and he must be persuaded, that at whatsoever period, or by whatsoever denomination of men this work was performed, superior judgment has been shewn in the planning of an object, which, situated as it is, affects by its simple greatness; and he must feel a high idea of the influence necessary in times so remote, to unite a body of men sufficient to execute it."

Appendix, p. 274.

noble range of MOURNE mountains appearing to great advantage in front. Ruins of DUNDRUM Castle upon a rocky eminence to the right. A great change for the better appears in the cultivation of the soil, and appearance of the crops, where wheat bears its proportion to the other grain.

I shall make no apology to my readers, for giving historical extracts (however copious) relating to those ancient castles and abbies which occur to me on my journey: for the history of the several vicissitudes they may have undergone, *ought* at least to affect the traveller with some degree of interest. DUNDRUM Castle has been thus described by the author of the "*Statistical Survey of Down*."

"DUNDRUM Castle is finely situated on a rock, commanding a whole view of the bay of that name; the sea to the South, a great part of LECALÉ* to the east, and the mountains of MOURNE to the south and south-west. There are still considerable remains of this castle†, particularly of a circular tower; and near it, a little lower, are the ruins of an ancient man-

* The division of *Lecale*, 32,100 acres, contains *Downpatrick*, the county town, *Strangford*, *Killough*, *Ardglass*, and *Dundrum*.

† An engraved view of this castle, is given in the *Survey of Down*; and two plates of the same castle, and the mansion house, are given by Mr. *Grose*, in his *Antiquities of Ireland*.

sion. This castle is said to have been built by SIR JOHN DE COURCY, for the Knights Templars, who possessed it in the year 1313, about which period that Order was abolished. It was afterwards granted to the Prior of DOWN, who held the same, with a small manor adjoining, till the suppression of religious houses; when the reversion of these possessions was granted to GERALD, EARL OF KILDARE. This castle, with seven town-lands, was granted to the family of MAGENNIS; on their forfeiture, it became the property of the EARL OF ARDGLASS, and afterwards came into the possession of the LORD VISCOUNT BLUNDELL, in whose representative, the MARCHIONESS OF DOWNSHIRE, it now remains. When this castle was in repair, it often proved a good guard to the pass, and as often an offensive neighbour to the English planted in LECALE, according to the hands that possessed it. In 1517, the EARL OF KILDARE, then Lord Deputy, marched into LECALE, and took it by storm, it being garrisoned at that time by the Irish, who had driven out the English some time before.

“ It was again possessed and repaired by the MAGENNISES, and retaken by Lord Deputy GRAY, with seven more castles in LECALE, in 1538. It afterwards got into the hands of PHE-LIM M'EVER MAGENNIS, who was obliged to

yield it to LORD MOUNTJOY, the 16 June, 1601. It met with another fate during the progress of the war in 1641, when it was demolished by order of CROMWELL, though garrisoned by protestants, and has ever since been suffered to run entirely to ruins."

TOLLYMORE PARK. Few, if any noblemen, either in IRELAND, or in the sister kingdom, can boast a residence placed in so singular and romantic a situation. The approach to it, under a Gothic gateway, is truly prepossessing. A lofty and extended range of well wooded mountains, diversified in their forms, meet the eye in front; of these SLIEVE DONARD is the highest, and has two *carnedds* to grace its summit; but the DIAMOND ROCK is most conspicuous, from its very rugged form. The situation of this mansion house is certainly very singular, and I may say, *unique*; for, independent of this grand inland scenery, immediately opposite the windows, it has a full view to the left of the ocean, and the ISLE OF MAN. The adjoining demesne has the beautiful accompaniment of a rapid mountain stream, which pursues its course, embosomed in thick woods, through a deep channel of indented rocks, and forms in its progress several cataracts; one of which, at some distance from the house, is well worth notice. The plantations are very extensive, and

are increased annually by LORD RODEN, but like the majority of those in England, want the judicious application of the axe; particularly to the fir tribe, which rather preponderates too much. The house attached to this place differs widely from the generality of houses in IRELAND, which are extravagantly tall; whereas this is low, and nearly the whole upon one extended ground floor. It contains a curious series of pictures painted by FULLER, describing the history of KING CHARLES's escape and concealment in the oak tree: the likenesses are preserved throughout, but in point of colouring and execution, the pictures have not much merit.

TUESDAY 26 AUGUST. From TOLLYMORE PARK to HILLTOWN VIII MILES. The beginning of the road is rather rough, the latter part good. On leaving LORD RODEN's demesne, a desert succeeds a paradise. The DIAMOND Rock appears on the left to great advantage amongst his kindred mountains. Cross a stony and heathy tract of hill; the cultivation of oats, flax, and potatoes, in small patches, to which our eyes had been so much accustomed, still continues. On approaching HILLTOWN, see the village of RATHFRILAND upon an eminence to the right; and an earthen work planted with fir trees on the left, with a cragged hill, that looks well, beyond it. HILLTOWN is a small

village, with a few houses, and a turreted church. An inn, with post horses.

From HILLTOWN to ROSS TREVOR VI MILES. Road good ; a dreary pass over the mountains, which improves every step on descending ; a rich and pleasing view of CARLINGFORD BAY, which is so completely land-locked and surrounded by mountains, that it appears rather like a large lake than the sea. The entrance to the village of ROSS TREVOR is very striking, through an irregular grove of tall and aged ash trees, the sea and whitened houses glimmering between them ; a truly rural village retirement, and commanding within its immediate neighbourhood more *agremens* than the generality of sea places ; a dry soil, shady walks, diversified rides, and good bathing. The most striking feature of this place, is a lofty mountain covered chiefly with oak wood, and feathering down to the water's edge. Underneath it is a little quay, from whence there is a walk of three quarters of a mile along the banks of the bay, completely arbour'd over by oak trees. A good road is continued along the coast, under the MOURNE mountains to DUNDRUM BAY. I have seen no place with a more pleasing combination of rural beauties ; mountains agreeably varied with wood, heath, and down, on one side ; others on the opposite coast, singularly cultivated in small portions or stripes, resembling a quilt of

patch-work; between them an extended channel of water, on the banks of which is the town of CARLINGFORD, with its ruined abbies and castle*; a purling brook, fine trees, neatly whitened cottages, &c. &c. A house upon a most singular construction is building in the village, by Mr. M'GWIRE. We found here a clean good inn, with a supply of post horses.

WEDNESDAY 27 AUGUST. From ROSS TREVOR to NEWRY VII MILES. The whole line of coast presents a continuation of gentlemen's houses, (low and neat) and whitened cottages, as far as WARREN'S-POINT, a village much frequented by sea-bathers. The æstuary now contracts itself into a narrower channel, and assumes the name of the NARROW WATER†. The ferry, and adjoining old castle, afford a good subject for the pencil. A most excellent level road continues its track on the water's edge; rugged and

* See a description of *Carlingford* in the *Iter*, p. 18. The erection of the castle is there ascribed to *King John*, in the year 1210; and Mr. *Archdale* attributes the foundation of a *Dominican Abbey*, at *Carlingford*, to *Richard de Burgh*, *Earl of Ulster*, in the year 1305. The ruins of each are said to be considerable; but my time would not allow me to make the *detour*, which might be accomplished very easily, by crossing in a boat from *Ross Trevor*, and meeting your cavalry at *Carlingford*.

† This name, I imagine, is a corruption from *Newry*, or *Nurie Water*, the appellation given it by *Boate*, in his *Natural History of Ireland*.

barren mountains rising immediately from its banks; trees and partial cultivation afterwards clothe their declivities, and whitened houses, ships, and barges, tend to animate the scene. At the upper end of this channel, which is nearly straight, the town of NEWRY opens itself to view. A most beautiful and interesting drive.

NEWRY is a large irregular town, and if I may judge from the buildings now erecting, is in a flourishing state. It has a communication with LOUGH NEAGH to the north, and with the æstuary of CARLINGFORD Bay to the south, by means of a canal: the intermediate distance is stated in the *Survey of Armagh* (page 109) to be thirty-one Irish miles; and its course from NEWRY, until it joins the River BAN, is there described, (p. 367.) The same author takes notice of a Druidical monument, which may be worthy the notice of the curious traveller. It is situated on the banks of the canal, about two miles north of NEWRY; was perfect a few years ago, but has lately suffered much by wanton dilapidations: he also mentions a large *cairn*, or heap of stones, in the same neighbourhood. A good inn (QUILTON'S), with post horses.

From NEWRY to DUNDALK x MILES. Road rough in parts. Ascend over a ridge of hills, through a dreary and stony country. What a contrast to the beautiful scenery on the Nar-

ROW WATER! Potatoes, oats, flax, and bog, the almost inseparable *quartetto*. Pass through the little village of JONESBOROUGH, and on descending, skirt the rich plantations of Mr. FORTESCUE, at RAVENSDALE PARK, backed by a fine heathy mountain. Continue to descend towards DUNDALK. See on the left a rugged hill, well wooded, and the bay; coast flat. The soil becomes richer and better cultivated, and an occasional wheat field appears. See on the right a raised earthen work, with a building upon it, and beneath it a castle. We found a very good inn at DUNDALK (TRANSFIELD'S) with post horses, &c.

DUNDALK is a large town, with some wide streets, one of which is a mile in length. The seat of the CLANBRASSIL family, now descended to LORD RODEX, stands in the middle of it. We there saw two curious old portraits in the style of HOLBEIN; the one of KING HENRY VIII. the other of ANNA BULLEN, small life. A spacious garden and demesne extends behind the house; well wooded, but neglected; the meadows are very rich, and the elevated parts of the deer park, possess some good situations for a mansion house. We continued our walk to the earthen *tumulus* before mentioned, upon which a *Folly* has been erected by its owner, Mr. BURNS. It is a fine work, and of large dimen-

sions, commanding a most pleasing and extensive view of the bay, sea, river, &c. Beneath it is a very perfect old castle, with a square tower at each angle, converted into a modern dwelling house; and some ridiculous castellated gateways have been added as an approach to it. A view and ground plan have been given of it by Mr. WRIGHT, in his *Louthiana*, but the former gives a very imperfect representation of it. He calls it CASTLETOWN Castle, and says, that the town, from which it derived its name, was sacked by EDWARD LE BRUCE, brother of ROBERT LE BRUCE, King of SCOTLAND, in the year 1318.

The author of the *Iter* attributes the building of this castle to LORD BELLEW, in the year 1361, as appears by an inscription on the building. He likewise adds, that OLIVER CROMWELL mounted a battery on the Danish mount, near the castle, by which he dismantled the old chapel, and took the castle from the BELLEWS, who defended it. Adjoining the castle is a church in ruins, with a thickly inhabited cemetery.

THURSDAY 28 AUGUST. From DUNDALK to DUNLEER x MILES. Road excellent, and posts well served with horses: corn fields increase in size, and improve in cultivation; clover and vetches added to the other usual crops. Near

LURGAN GREEN, is a seat of LORD CLERMONT. A large marsh and flat coast on the left; at a short distance to the right, the remains of a fine round tower are visible at DROMISKIN, which Mr. WRIGHT supposes, from the vast breadth of its foundation, to have been one of the highest in IRELAND, and not less than 130 feet: He has given, in his *Louthiana*, both a ground plan and view of it. Pass through CASTLE BELLINGHAM, where there is a good inn, and a supply of post horses. See a ruined church on the right, and an earthen work on the left. Trees and gentlemen's seats increase; and mud cottages, as well as the long grey coats, reappear. The inn at DUNLEER, (an old mansion house) is tolerable.

FROM DUNLEER TO SLANE XIV MILES. The ruins of MONASTERBOYCE and MELLIFONT Abbies, induced me to deviate from the *direct* road to SLANE, and I was amply recompensed for this *detour*, by the very interesting monastick remains these places presented. My carriage was able to get within a very short distance of the former. The ruins at MONASTERBOYCE form a singular and interesting group; the precincts of a small churchyard contain two perfect stone crosses, and one imperfect; a large round tower, and the shell of two chapels. The round tower maintains its usual position to the north-west of the church. The loftiest of the

two crosses, which is situated between the two churches, is called ST. BOYNE'S CROSS ; but the other, on the southern side of the churchyard, is equally rich in point of sculpture. On the base of this latter, there is an inscription, beginning, as it appeared to me, with the words

O DOMINE..

The author of the *Iter* (page 593) says, that the name of MUREDACH, who was for some time King of IRELAND, and died in 534, is plainly legible on the former. They are of a greyish kind of stone, and are by far the finest examples, and the richest in their sculpture, of any crosses I have ever yet seen. Near the eastern wall of the churchyard, is the fragment of another, which has been fixed into the pedestal. Three engravings have been given of ST. BOYNE'S CROSS, by Mr. WRIGHT, in his *Louthiana*, all of which, upon examination, I found to be very incorrect. As perhaps some future tourist may have an opportunity of comparing the above author's account, with the original structure on the spot, I shall here insert it.

“ This is a very old and curious cross, about 18 feet high, on all sides full of sculpture ; it is said to be all of one stone, sent from ROME, and erected by order of the Pope : on the centre of the cross, on one side, is a figure representing

CHRIST, and opposite to it, on the other side, is ST. PATRICK; on this side at the bottom, are the figures of ADAM and EVE, &c. and opposite to it, on the other side, is that of ST. BOYNE; the whole seems to be a sort of history from the creation; but as the figures are most of them very old, imperfect, and not easy to be made out, I shall not here undertake a full description of them; I shall only observe, that under the feet of ST. PATRICK, an angel is represented with a pair of scales, as weighing virtue and vice, where the former is supposed to be predominant; and over the head of CHRIST, he is again represented between the Apostles, as risen from the dead."

Mr. ARCHDALE has not passed these celebrated monastick remains unnoticed; he says, "that in the Barony of FERRARD, there was a religious house, anciently called MONASTER-BUTE, being founded by ST. BUTE, or BOETIUS, the son of BRONAGH." In recording the annals of this house, he adds, that the founder died in the year 521, that in 968, the monastery was plundered, and in 1117, destroyed by fire. In describing their modern appearance, he says; "Here we find the ruins of two small chapels; and although nothing remarkable is to be seen in their structure, yet do they evince the great antiquity of this foundation. Near the west end of one of these chapels, is a round tower,

one hundred and ten feet high, beautifully diminishing in the manner of a Tuscan pillar, from a base of eighteen feet ; its circumference is seventeen yards, and the wall, built of a slaty stone, of which the surrounding hills are composed, is three feet six inches thick ; the door is five feet six inches in height, twenty-two inches in width, and six feet from the present level of the ground ; it is arched and built of free stone, as are the windows of the chapels ; in the inside the diameter is nine feet, and above the door, it is divided into five stories, by rings of stone slightly projecting *.

“ There are two large crosses on the south side of the chapels ; the principal one is said to be of an entire stone, and is called ST. BOYNE'S CROSS, which is the most ancient religious relique now extant in IRELAND ; the ornamental figures on it are rudely engraven, and at once shew the uncivilized age in which they were executed ; there is also an inscription on this cross, in the old Irish character, equally inelegant with the figures ; some letters of which appear, and evidently form the word MUREDACH,

* Mr. Wright, in his *Louthiana*, has noticed steps on the outside of this tower, leading to the doorway. As this escaped my notice at the time I viewed it, and as it is a peculiarity I have never heard of in other similar buildings, I wish the tourist who follows me hither, will observe attentively whether these steps are ancient or modern.

who was for some time King of IRELAND, and died A. D. 534, about one hundred years after the arrival of SAINT PATRICK. This abbey continues to be a burial place of note."

I shall feel highly gratified if the slight description I have given of these fine crosses, excites the curiosity of the Irish antiquary, and if their learned veteran, General VALLANCEY, would rescue these, as well as those at KELLS, from oblivion, by sending some young artist of the academy, to measure and copy them minutely. They are well worth the trouble, as well on account of their high antiquity, as of their rich design and sculpture: for neither can the sister kingdom of ENGLAND, or the principality of WALES, produce their equals.

I never saw a monastick establishment placed in a more uninteresting spot: and here the monks did not certainly evince their usual good taste and skill in fixing their habitation.

From MONASTERBOYCE, I proceeded to COLLON, where the spirited exertions of Mr. FOSTER are evident in every road, hedge, and cottage; his plantations are very extensive, and increasing annually. I never saw smoother roads; they are made of a black substance resembling coal.

At COLLON, I had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with Dr. BEAUFORT, whose excel-

lent *Memoir* and *Map of Ireland*, are too well known, and too much esteemed, to need from me any comment; and I was happy to hear, that he was preparing for the press a more extensive topographical work relating to IRELAND. He obligingly acted as my guide and *cicerone* to the ruins of MELLIFONT. Alas! how are the mighty fallen! Two inconsiderable buildings mark the site of this once sumptuous, Cistercian monastery. Small, however, as are the remains, they have still their interest, and deservedly claim the traveller's attention.

From a modern inspection of these ruins, and of the spot on which they are placed, we neither can, nor ought to judge of their *former* situation or appearance: for nature, as well as art, have each been robbed by time, and pillaged of their respective decorations. The site of this renowned abbey, however forbidding in its present state, well answered the situation that was usually selected by the monastick Orders; and, before the valley was stripped of its sylvan honours, would have formed a most pleasing religious retirement.

I before said, that these ruins were reduced to two imperfect buildings; the one a square or oblong chapel, which from the remains of its groined roof, and windows, seems to have been executed in a good style. It was also *once* decorated with a very richly sculptured doorway,

an engraving of which has been given by Mr. WRIGHT, in his *Louthiana*: I say *once*, because it now no longer graces the entrance to this chapel, having (as I was informed by an Irish gentleman) “*been played for as a stake at Piquet, and lost.*” I could not learn if it had ever been made use of.

Adjoining this chapel, is an octagonal building in tolerable good preservation, and of an uncommon shape and design. An engraving has been given of it, by Mr. WRIGHT, but the upper story is by no means correct in its design. He calls it a bath, but Mr. ARCHDALE assigns to it a different purpose: it very much resembles some of the Baptisteries of the lower ages.

Mr. ARCHDALE has been very diffuse in his account of this celebrated monastery, from the annals of which, I shall select the most interesting historical *data*.

In the year 1142, DONOUGH M'CORVOILL, or CARROL, Prince of URIELL, erected an abbey here for monks of the Cistercian Order, with which ST. BERNARD furnished it from his own Abbey of CLAIRVAUX.

CHRISTIAN O'CONARCHY was the first abbot, and in 1150, was made Bishop of LISMORE.

In 1157, a great synod was held here for the purpose of consecrating the church, at which were present the Archbishop of ARMAGH, then

Apostolic Legate, and divers other Princes and Bishops; on this occasion, many rich grants were made to the abbey, particularly by MURCHERTACH O'LOCHLAINN, King of IRELAND, who presented 140 oxen, or cows, sixty ounces of gold, and a townland, near DROGHEDA; O'KEARUAILL, Prince of URIELL, presented likewise sixty ounces of gold; and DERVORGILLA, wife to TIGERNAN O'ROIRKE, Prince of BREFFIN^{*}, gave the like quantity of gold, with a chalice of the same metal, for the high altar, and holy furniture for nine other altars in the same church.

In the year 1168, Prince DONOUGH died, and was buried in the abbey he had founded.

King HENRY the SECOND granted to the abbot and convent, a confirmation of their house and possessions.

A. D. 1189, MURCHARD O'CARROL, King of URIELL[†], died here, and was interred near the founder; and in the year 1193, DERVORGILLA died in this abbey. The same year, the reliques of St. MALACHY, Archbishop of ARMAGH,

^{*} *Breffny*, or *Brefne*, is now called the *County of Cavan*, though formerly it took in *Leitrim*, and part of *Annaly*.

Vallancey Collect. tom. iii. p. 329.

[†] *Uriel*, or *Orgiel*, comprehended anciently the present counties of *Louth*, *Monaghan*, and *Ardmagh*, the sovereignty of which was generally invested in the family of *O'Carrol*.

Vallancey Collect. tom. iii. p. 402.

were brought from CLAIRVAUX into IRELAND, and received with great honour in this, and other houses of the Cistercian Order.

A. D. 1203, KING JOHN granted a new charter to this abbey, confirming to them their former possessions. In 1229, a Tuesday market was granted to the abbot and convent in their town of COLLAN, and freedom of all tolls and customs throughout the kingdom ; and in 1238, the King (HENRY III.) confirmed the grants made by King HENRY II.

In the year 1306, the temporalities of this abbey were seized into the King's hands, on account of the endless disputes and wranglings for the chair of the abbacy ; and in 1322, it was determined, that no person whatsoever should be admitted into this abbey, before he had taken an oath, that he was not of English descent.

A. D. 1349, the King (EDWARD III.) confirmed all and every of the grants made from time to time to this abbey ; and granted them divers other rights of free warren, &c. in their several manors : also the privilege of building a prison in any of their manors within the County of MEATH ; and liberty to erect a gallows, pillory, and tumbrell (ducking stool) in COLLAN, &c.

In the year 1366, REGINALD LEYNAGH, ab-

bot, was indicted at TRIM, for erecting a weir on the River BOYNE, at OLDBRIDGE; and the jury, having found, that from the time of the arrival of the English, the King had a certain free passage in that river, from the town of DROGHEDA to the Bridge of TRIM, 24 feet in breadth, from the bank on each side of the river, ordered the weir to be removed to that breadth, and the abbot to be committed to gaol; but he was released from his confinement on the payment of a fine of ten pounds.

In the year 1400, a confirmation of the abbey lands was granted to the convent by KING HENRY THE FOURTH. RICHARD CONTER was the last abbot, who, on the 10th of September, 1540, had an annual pension of £.40, granted him for life. The abbots of this religious house sat as Barons in parliament. Mr. ARCHDALE has been very particular in reciting the several possessions of this abbey, taken by an inquisition in June, 1612, the whole amount of which was £.315. 19s. annual value.

These extensive possessions were granted to SIR GERALD MOOR, who fixed his residence here, making the abbey a magnificent and desirable seat, and at the same time a place of defence, as it bordered immediately on the Irish rebels; against whom this house constantly maintained itself, until the 24th of November,

1641, when a strong party sat down before it. The garrison, which consisted only of fifteen horse and twenty-two foot, made a vigorous defence; but their amunition being exhausted, the horse forced their way through the Irish camp to DROGHEDA, and were followed by the foot, who all effected an escape, eleven only excepted, which number the Irish sacrificed to the *manes* of one hundred and twenty of their men, who were killed in the field of battle.

“There yet remains, in tolerable preservation, a beautiful little chapel, built of a yellowish free stone, intermixed with red: the entrance to the chapel is through a superb Gothic arch, which, on the inside, is exquisitely finished*: the east window is truly elegant, and on each side are three smaller windows, finished in the style of the great arch, which is accurately represented in WRIGHT’S *Louthiana*: the work of this arch, as well as that of the windows, pillars, &c. have still the remains of a profusion of gilding and painting in variegated colours. Here are also to be seen the ruins of a spacious octagon structure, built of a light grey freestone, on the top of which was a large cistern, from whence water was conveyed, by means of pipes, to the different offices in the abbey.”

We found good accommodations (the Cas-

* The same before stated to have been lost at Piquet.

THE Inn) with post horses, at SLANE, a neat little village, situated on the banks of the River BOYNE. Adjoining the town are some extensive and productive flower-mills; and near them is an entrance gateway to the demesne of LORD CONYNGHAM; slender and meagre according to the Gothic *costume* of modern architects. It is singular, that this class of artists, with every possible advantage of reference to the numerous fine existing specimens, dispersed over all our dominions, from the early period of the Norman Conquest, to the reign of that great destroyer of monastick remains, KING HENRY VIII; it is singular, I say, that these artists should despise the noble structures of our forefathers, and *invent* a motley kind of architecture, which carries with it neither lightness, uniformity, nor solidity. The mansion house is also castellated, and appears to have been the work of the same architect who built the *modern* castle of SIR HUGH PARSONS, at BIRR, and the larger fortress of LORD CHARLEVILLE, near TULLAMORE.

Our evening was most delightfully spent on the banks of the River BOYNE*. The character

* The River *Boyne* takes its rise in the County of *Kildare*, and enters *Meath* near *Clonard*; from thence it pursues its course through *Trim* to *Nuacan*, where being joined by the *Blackwater* river, the united streams flow gently on by *Slane* to *Drogheda*,

of this river is uniformly dull, and may well be called (like the Liris in Italy) "*taciturnus amnis*:" its appearance, however, owing to the numerous aquatic plants with which it abounds, is rather picturesque, and reminds me of some of the subjects selected by the Dutch and Flemish artists, for the exertion of their pencil: Chance directed my steps along the western banks of the river, and I found that I had taken the right side, as the views of LORD CONYNGHAM's house and grounds are much more advantageous, and the foreground of rock far more majestic on this side of the river than on the other. The first part of our walk was dull and uninteresting; but on turning an abrupt angle nearly opposite to SLANE CASTLE, what a sudden change of character does nature assume! lofty and perpendicular rocks succeed to tame and sedgy banks, and the castellated mansion, seated on a rocky elevation, presents itself well on the opposite side of the river. I continued my walk as far as BEAUPARK, the seat of the LAMBERT family, where all would be perfect, if the architecture of the mansion house accorded with the surrounding scenery of wood, rock, and water; but so inappropriate and discordant a building was never before

where they have their confluence with the sea. Its banks are richly decorated with the ruins of ancient castles and abbies.

seen. Here indeed projecting towers, bastions, and battlements, would have their due effect. On the other side of the river are some fine rocks, whose *strata* are very singularly disposed in the form of Gothic arches.

Such a situation, and such a river, could not have been overlooked, either by the cloystered monk, or the more solitary Anchorite. Mr. ARCHDALE informs us, "that an abbey of Canons Regular, was founded at a very early age, on a hill adjoining the town, and was remarkable for being many years the residence of DAGOBERT, KING of AUSTRASIA, who (A.D. 653) at the age of seven years, was taken by GRIMOALD, Mayor of the palace, and by his direction, shorn a monk, rendered unfit to hold the reins of government, and banished into IRELAND. He was received into this abbey, where he obtained an education proper for the enjoyment of a throne, and continued here during the space of twenty years, when he was recalled into FRANCE, and replaced in his government *."

* Mr. Archdale quotes the French Historian *Mezeray* on this occasion. I find these facts somewhat differently stated in *L'Art de verifier les Dates*, tom. i. p. 546.

It is there recorded, that at the death of *Sigebert II. King of Austrasia*, in 656, *Grimoald* having supplanted the true heir to the crown, *Dagobert*, and placed his own son, *Childebert*, on the throne, caused the young prince, then about four years old, to be shorn, and carried off by *Didon*, Bishop of *Poitiers*, into Scot-

The first abbot of this monastery recorded in history, was COLMAN, son of FAELAN, and called the BRITON; he died A.D. 746. In the year 833, the abbey was plundered by the Ostmen; and in 946, it suffered the same fate. In the following year, these invaders received a great defeat at SLANE, where BLACAR, their commander, and 1600 of his best troops, fell in battle; but in 948, the Ostmen took their revenge, by setting fire to the abbey; many of its holy inhabitants lost their lives, and many revered relics, amongst which was the pastoral staff of ST. EIRC, and the best clock in Ireland, were wholly consumed.

The abbey was again plundered in the years 1156 and 1161. And 1170, was once more infested, not by foreign barbarians, but by domestic enemies; for we find, that DERMOT M'MORROGH, KING of LEINSTER, with a body of English, led on by EARL STRONGBOW,

land. In the year 674, *Dagobert* was sent for out of Ireland into England, by *Wilfred, Archbishop of York*, and in the same year regained his Kingdom of *Austrasia*, which he did not long enjoy; for after a short reign of four years, he suffered a premature death, by the hand of an assassin. The Historians *Mezeray* and *Henault*, agree as to his being sent into *Ireland*, and the difference arises probably from the name of *Scotia* being assigned to *Ireland* till a very late period.

burned and sacked the town; and the English forces repeated their barbarities in 1175.

This abbey however seems to have risen from its ashes, and to have been rebuilt; for in the year 1512, it was refounded for friars of the third Order of ST. FRANCIS, by CHRISTOPHER FLEMING, Knight, Lord of SLANE, and ELIZABETH STUCKLE, his wife; who, finding MALACHY and DONOGH O'BRINE, friars of the same Order, dwelling in the ancient hermitage of EIRC, removed them to this new abbey, having obtained a proper licence for so doing from the bishop*.

The Hermitage of EIRC was situated close to the river, and some trifling remains of it are still visible within LORD CONYNGHAM'S grounds. ST. EIRC was the first Bishop of SLANE, and was consecrated by ST. PATRICK; he died A.D. 514, in the 90th year of his age.

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST. My reason for taking the road by SLANE, was to view a singular curiosity in its neighbourhood, at NEW GRANGE, in the County of MEATH, and at a short distance from the River BOYNE. This monument has for many years excited the attention of the learned; much has been written, and many

* A copy of this grant, in Latin, has been given by Mr. Grose, in his "*Antiquities of Ireland*."

conjectures formed concerning its original destination. Governor POWNAL wrote a long dissertation upon it, (which was read before the Society of Antiquaries in June 1770), and illustrated his description by views, and ground-plans. A later account, with plans, has been laid before the public, by an ingenious native of the country, DR. LEDWICH, in his *Antiquities of Ireland*. Mr. WRIGHT and Dr. MOLYNEUX, also mention it in their respective writings. Its outward appearance is that of a large earthen *tumulus*, similar to those we see so frequently on the chalky hills of WILTSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE, but not so neat and uniform in its outline; it differs, however, from them, in having been surrounded by huge unshapen stones, erected in the same state as they were taken from their native quarry; some of which still remain in their original positions. It differs also from the generality* of them in the West of England, by containing under its verdant surface, a subterraneous temple, constructed of the rudest materials, and certainly of the highest antiquity. DR. LEDWICH informs us, “that it was discovered in the year 1699, by a Mr. CAMPBELL, who resided in the village of

* I make use of the word *generality*, because in some parts of *Somersetshire* and *Wiltshire*, where stone abounds, we have discovered *cromlechs* under the surface of the barrow.

NEW GRANGE; who, observing stones under the green sod, carried much of them away, and at length arrived at a broad flat stone that covered the mouth of the gallery."

Through this entrance, we ventured into the artificial cavern, having previously sent in a labouring man with candles. For a short space, the entrance is so low, that we could only gain admittance by crawling along on our bellies; but after passing under one of the side stones, that has fallen across the passage, the avenue becomes sufficiently high to admit a person at his full height*. The area of this building resembles the upper part of a cross, as the avenue does the stem†; there are three recesses, one

* Dr. *Ledwich* gives the following dimensions of this building: "At the entrance, the gallery is three feet wide and two high: at thirteen feet from the entrance, it is but two feet two inches wide. The length of the gallery from its mouth to the beginning of the dome, is sixty-two feet; from thence to the upper part of the dome, eleven feet six inches; the whole length seventy-one feet and an half. The dome, or cave, with the long gallery, gives the exact figure of a cross: the length, between the arms of the cross is twenty feet; the dome forms an octagon twenty feet high, with an area of about seventeen. It is composed of long flat stones, the upper projecting a little below the lower, and closed in and capped with a flat flag."

Ledwich's Ant. of Ireland, first ed. p. 316.

† Though the form of this building certainly bears some resemblance to that of a cross, I can by no means attribute the construction of it to so late a period, viz. after the introduction of christianity into our island; long before which time, if I may

facing the avenue or gallery, and one on each side; in the one to the right is a large stone vase, which antiquaries have denominated a *rock bason*: it is mentioned, as having its sides fluted, but I could not distinguish any workmanship of the kind; I observed however a singularity in it, which is so evident, that I am surprised it did not arrest the attention of former travellers and writers. Within the excavated part of this large bason, are two circular cavities, along-side of each other, about the size of a child's head: several also of the rude stones composing this recess, are decorated with a variety of devices, circular, zigzag, and diamond-shaped: some of this latter pattern seem to bear the marks of superior workmanship; the squares being indented. Many of the stones on each side of the *adit* have similar rude marks upon them, and one of them has spiral zigzags*. Some antiquaries have carried their

be allowed to judge from the researches I have made in *Wiltshire*, the custom of burying under *tumuli*, or *barrows*, had ceased.

* Governor *Pownall* observed these spiral lines on one of the sidestones, and supposes, "that this stone, as well as some others used in the compilation of this structure, had formerly belonged to some other monument of a much more ancient date, and that they were brought from the sea-coast indiscriminately with the rest of the materials, and placed just as the shape of the stone suited the place assigned it." But why not attribute the proper

zeal so far, as to discover (in idea) *letters* on the stones, which they have attributed to the Phœnicians; whilst others have denominated them OGHAM characters: those *marks* which I observed on many of the stones, bore very little resemblance to *letters*, and a great similarity to the ornaments I have found on the ancient British urns discovered under our *tumuli* in WILTSHIRE. I am inclined therefore to attribute this singular temple to some of the Celtic, or Belgic tribes, who poured in upon us from the Continent of GAUL, and peopled England, together with WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

In the opposite recess, there are the fragments of another rock bason; and some authors assert, (though, I believe, without much foundation), that the centre recess contained a third vase*. The construction of the dome demands notice. The avenue, or gallery, leading to the area, is formed by large upright stones, pitched perpendicularly in a row on each side, and supporting the flat stones that form the roof; this covering rises gradually till it reaches the dome, which is not (like our modern cupolas) formed by key stones converging to a centre, but after

degree of antiquity to a structure that has every proof to claim it?

* *Dr. Molyneux and Humphrey Llwyd.*

the manner of our staircases, each long stone projecting a little beyond the end of that immediately beneath it; and a large flat stone making the cove of the centre. The tallest of the stones forming the *adit* to the *sacellum*, as represented in the plate, which serves as a frontispiece to my work, is seven feet six inches in height: its companion on the opposite side, is about seven feet: the outward surface of the rock bason, is about three feet six long, and three feet two inches deep,

I shall not unnecessarily trespass upon the time and patience of my readers, in endeavouring to ascertain what tribes first peopled this country; nor to what nation the construction of this singular monument may reasonably be attributed; for, I fear, both its authors and its original destination, will ever remain unknown. Conjecture may wander over its wild and spacious domains, but will never bring home with it either truth or conviction. Alike will the histories of those stupendous temples at ABURY and STONEHENGE, which grace my native county, remain involved in obscurity and oblivion.

This tract of country seems to be particularly rich in similar antiquities; there is a cavern in Lord NETTERVILLE'S Park; another lately discovered in Mrs. M'GWIRE'S demesne, and I passed, in my way to the NEW GRANGE, a

large raised mound, which bore a great resemblance to its elevated neighbour. I also observed, in a field adjoining the NEW GRANGE, a smaller sepulchral *tumulus*, that might easily be opened; and another raised earthen work nearer Lord NETTERVILLE's Park. I had cause to regret, that so little time could be devoted to the examination of this curious region, which abounds so much in works of ancient times.

From SLANE to NAVAN VI MILES*. Road good. Pass near Lord CONYNGHAM's, and other gentlemen's seats. On travelling this road, no one could suppose that so many natural beauties lay concealed within so short a distance on the banks of the BOYNE: the pedestrian on this occasion, by following the stream, would have an advantage over the man who travels in his carriage †.

* The traveller might take a much shorter road from *Slane* to *Dublin*, if he has previously visited *Trim* and the banks of the *Boyne*, to *Navan*. He would, in his way to *Drogheda*, see a monument erected to the memory of *King William III.* on the spot where he crossed that river, and obtained in 1690, a decisive victory over the forces of his royal antagonist *King James II.* and at *Swords* he would also see a round tower.

† *Pedestrian* tours have of late years been much practised, and even recommended, (*à l'économie à part*) as being the *best* method of seeing a country: but, I must own, I can only see *one* advantage on their side, i. e. *economy*, for, independent of the unwelcome reception which *pedestrian* guests often meet with at *inns* on their road, and many other *disagreements* and disappoint-

See on the left a castle near the river ; and on the right, at DONAGHMORE, a large round tower, nearly perfect, a small portion only of the stone roof having fallen. It bears the same relative situation to the adjoining ruined church, that I have before remarked. I found the circumference of this tower to be about sixty feet six inches, at the height of four feet from the ground, and the tower rises from a projecting base. On the key stone, over the entrance doorway, is the representation of CHRIST suffering on the cross ; a decided proof that these buildings were not (as some writers have conjectured) built by the *Pagans*. Mr. ARCHDALE says nothing about this tower, and little about the religious establishment at DONAGHMORE ; he says, “ that ST. PATRICK founded an abbey here, called BILE-TORTAIN, over which he placed ST. JUSTIN ; it was afterwards named DOMNACH-TORTAIN, and now DONAGHMORE. The Abbot ROBERTAGH, the son of FLINN, died A.D. 843.”

Near the town of NAVAN, I observed on

ments, I can never believe, that when the limbs are harassed and fatigued by a long walk ; that either the eye will view, the mind consider, or the pencil delineate, with the same pleasure, good taste, or discrimination, those objects in nature, for the observation of which, the tour is destined, and the *pedestrian* labour undergone.

the right, a raised earthen work *. A good inn, and post horses.

From NAVAN to TRIM VIII MILES. Road good; a fine corn country. See on the left a ruined church, mansion house, and earthen work; another dilapidated church in the same line; and close to the BOYNE is a small chapel in ruins. At a short distance from hence, and within sight, stands BECTIVE Abbey, situated on the banks of the said river; and presenting rather a castellated than a monastick exterior. It was founded either in the year 1146, or 1152, for Cistercians, by MURCHARD O'MELAGHLIN, King of MEATH, and was called the Abbey *de Beatitudine*. After the invasion of Ireland, by the English, in 1171, this Province of MEATH was given to HUGH DE LACY and his heirs, by King HENRY the SECOND, to hold by the service of fifty men. This nobleman was killed by the blow of an axe, from a labourer employed by him in building a castle at DURROW, in the KING'S COUNTY, A. D. 1186. From the annals of this abbey, it appears, that his body was detained for a long time by the Irish, until the year 1195, when, by the direction of MAT-

* Mr. Archdale says, "that in the burial ground at Navan, there are the remains of many ancient tombs, with figures in *alto relievo*."

THEW, ARCHBISHOP of CASHEL, (then Apostolic Legate), and JOHN, ARCHBISHOP of DUBLIN, it was delivered up, and interred with great solemnity in BECTIVE Abbey; but the head was placed in the Abbey of ST. THOMAS at DUBLIN; it also appears, that the controversy was continued between the monks of BECTIVE and the canons of ST. THOMAS, concerning the right to the body of HUGH DE LACY; and that a commission being appointed by Pope INNOCENT III. to inquire into their respective rights, sentence was given in favour of the Abbey of ST. THOMAS. The annals of this abbey, as given by Mr. ARCHDALE, extend from the year 1195, to the time of its surrender in the reign of King HENRY VIII. and these are very slight and imperfect. The Abbot of this house sat as a Baron in parliament. There are considerable remains of this abbey still standing.

TRIM. From the superficial survey I took of this town, and its environs, during my two former passages through it, I found it contained so many good subjects for the pencil, that I reserved it for a *bonne bouche* at the close of my Tour.

Of the ruins within its walls, the castle is the most prominent feature, both from its dimensions, and situation on the banks of the River BOYNE; indeed this is almost the only

building I have seen in IRELAND, that deserves the appellation of *Castle*; the generality of buildings so called, are only small forts, resembling each other very much in the style of their architecture. The natives, perhaps, whose eyes have not been so much accustomed, as mine have, to view with rapture the stately fabricks of CONWAY, CARNARVON, and HARLECH, may think this remark fastidious, but in comparison with the English, Welsh, and Scotch Castles, and as far as my observation has extended in this country, I cannot allow it to be ill-founded.

I have before had occasion to mention the Royal Grant, of the Province of MEATH, to HUGH DE LACY, in reward for his services, who parcelled out divers portions of his large territory amongst his friends and military companions. Amongst these HUGH TYRRELL, styled, by the Chronologer, his *intrinsicke friend*, received CASTLEKNOCK.

HUGH DE LACY, to strengthen his newly acquired territories, had built a strong castle at TRIM, and surrounded it with a deep and large ditch; and when furnished and competently garnished, he departed for England, leaving it in the custody of the aforesaid HUGH TYRRELL. The King of CONNAUGHT, taking advantage of DE LACY's absence, assembled all the forces he could, in order to destroy it: but

HUGH TYRRELL, being advertized of their coming, dispatched messengers to STRONGBOW, beseeching him to come to his aid. The Earl presently assembled his forces, and marched towards TRIM; but HUGH TYRRELL, seeing the enemy at hand, and finding himself too weak to make resistance against their multitudes, abandoned the castle, and burned it. The Irish Kings perceiving that done to their hands, which they intended to have done by force, returned towards their own countries. The Earl upon his way meeting with intelligence, that TRIM was burned, marched on, and when he came thither, he neither found castle nor house to lodge in: wherefore he made no stay, but pursued the enemy, and fell upon their rear, of whom one hundred and fifty were slain; which done, he returned to DUBLIN, and HUGH TYRRELL to the ruined castle of TRIM, to reedify the same, before HUGH DE LACY returned out of England*.

About the year 1220, the Province of MEATH

* This account of *Trim*, is extracted from an historical fragment, written by *Maurice Regan*, and published by *Harris*, in his *Hibernica*. Some historians, amongst whom is *Camden*, seem to hint, that the first castle was built at *Trim*, by *William Pepard*, previous to the grant of *Meath* to *Hugh de Lacy*. *Maurice Regan*, above mentioned, was servant and interpreter to *Dermod Mac Morrogh*, King of *Leinster*, at the time of the English invasion.

was much agitated by private dissensions, between HUGH DE LACY, son and successor to the original possessor, and WILLIAM MARSHALL, Earl of PEMBROKE. "TRIM (says *Ware*,) was besieged, and brought to lamentable plight; and when the rage and fury of their broils were somewhat abated, to prevent the like in future, the same year the Castle of TRIM was built." I know not upon what grounds this castle has been attributed to KING JOHN, for this monarch died in the year 1216: and if we give credit to the Irish Historian, the castle was not erected till the year 1220: but to King JOHN other residences have been with as much impropriety attributed, as I have instanced in my notes on the building at ST. DAVID'S in WALES, vulgarly called KING JOHN'S HALL. (*Giraldus Cambrensis*, vol. ii. page 30.)

In 1399, it continued to be one of the strongest places within the English pale*. The sons of the DUKES OF LANCASTER and GLOUCESTER, were confined within its walls by King RICHARD the SECOND, the former of whom was unfortunately drowned on his pas-

* The English, at last, by ill policy and ill success, were reduced to the dominion of only four counties, viz. *Louth*, *Meath*, *Dublin* and *Kildare*, besides the great cities, to which was given the name of *Pale*, because (as *Boate* says) the government of the Kings of England, and the English colonies were reduced to so small a compass, and as it were *impaled* within the same.

sage to England. I find (from *Dugdale*) that in 19 *Richard II.* ROGER MORTIMER, had a special commission of lieutenancy for the Provinces of ULSTER, CONNAUGHT, and MEATH, and in the next year was again constituted Lord Lieutenant of the whole realm; his son and heir, EDMUND MORTIMER, was also appointed Lieutenant of Ireland; (1 *Henry VI.* 1422) and Mr. GROSE says, that this Earl had, in 1422, the inheritance of TRIM, and there died of the plague.

In the years 1406 and 1416, two Parliaments were called in DUBLIN, adjourned to TRIM, and held in the Black Friary; where also tradition makes the *first* Irish Parliament to have been held. In 1459, a mint was established in the Castle of TRIM, and silver and brass money were there coined by the King's order; and in 1457, mention is made of another Parliament having been called at the same place. In the years 1485, 1490, and 1493, the same sessions were held in TRIM Castle. In 1494, the Military Society of St. GEORGE, which had been instituted in 1479, for the defence of the Counties of DUBLIN, KILDARE, MEATH, and LOUTH, ceased to exist; and two years afterwards, TRIM was consumed by fire. During the rebellious and troublesome reign of the unfortunate CHARLES the First, this town became again a scene of tumult and disorder. In 1641, it

was surprised by the insurgents, but was retaken the next year by Sir CHARLES COOTE. Pursuing the enemy unguardedly in the night, this gallant commander, *whose very name was a terror to the Irish*, received a mortal shot, and expired.*

In 1647, the castle was refortified, and made very strong; it was besieged by General PRESTON, but relieved by Colonel JONES. In 1649, it was taken from the Parliamentarians by Lord INCHQUIN; and in 1650, the Royalists possessed themselves of it, but were dispossessed by Colonel REYNOLDS, and Sir THEOPHILUS JONES.

Such are the memorials I have been able to collect respecting the Castle of TRIM; all of which prove, how very important a strong hold it was considered, during the course of many successive centuries. But however important and strong this castle may have been considered, both in a military and in a civil light, the monastick establishments in the town and neighbourhood, presented themselves as rivals, if not in power, at least in riches. No less than four religious establishments have been recorded, by Mr. ARCHDALE, as existing at TRIM, besides a chantry, a Greek church, and a nunnery.

1. An Abbey of Canons Regular, founded at a very early period, on a piece of ground, given

for that purpose by FETHLEMID, the son of LAOGHAIRE, and grandson of NIALL. ST. PATRICK made his nephew, ST. LOMANN, bishop there, and was succeeded by ST. FORCHERNE, about the middle of the fifth century. The annals of this abbey are continued in regular order, from this early æra to the time of its dissolution, in the reign of KING HENRY VIII. From them we learn, that the town and abbey suffered by conflagration in the years 1108, 1127, 1143, 1155, and 1203. Towards the close of the thirteenth century, the abbey was rebuilt by the LACY family, and filled with Canons Regular. In 1368, this building was again consumed by fire. Mr. ARCHDALE differs in his dates respecting the Parliaments held at TRIM: he places them in the years 1484, 1487, and 1491.

This church possessed an image of the Blessed Virgin, which, however for many ages celebrated for its miracles, and the many pilgrimages and offerings made to it, was publicly burned in the year 1538. In the 34th HENRY VIII. this abbey, with its appurtenances, was granted to SIR ANTHONY ST. LEGER, Knight. The lofty tower, called the YELLOW SEEPELE, of which a conspicuous fragment still remains, owes its dilapidations to OLIVER CROMWELL, against whom it held out a considerable time as a garrison,

2. The Grey Friary was dedicated to St. BONAVENTURE, and was generally called the Observantine Friary of TRIM. Some attribute its foundation to KING JOHN; others to the family of PLUNKET. It was reformed by the Observantines before the year 1325. In 1330, a great part of this building was undermined by the waters of the BOYNE, and fell to the ground. The present Sessions House now stands on its site.

3. The Dominican Friary stood near the gate leading to ATHBOY, and was founded in 1263, by GEOFFREY DE GENEVILLE, who, by his marriage with MAUD, daughter to GILBERT DE LACY, had livery of the Castle of TRIM, as the right, by inheritance, of his wife. This said GEOFFREY, in the year 1308, resigned the lordship of MEATH, to ROGER DE MORTIMER, the rightful heir, and entered himself a friar in this monastery, wherein he died, and was interred in 1314. Many others of his family were also buried in this monastery. This was the abbey, before mentioned as the Black Friary, in which divers Parliaments were held, and in one of which, it was enacted, "that the Irish should not wear shirts stained with saffron."

4. The Priory of Crossbearers, dedicated to St. JOHN the BAPTIST, and founded by one of the Bishops of MEATH, is represented as having been a truly magnificent building, in which

probably some of the Parliaments were held; but I can gain no information respecting its original situation.

Besides these monastick buildings at TRIM, there are two others in its immediate neighbourhood that deserve notice.

1. The Priory of NEWTOWN, situated on the northern banks of the River BOYNE. This was founded about the year 1206, for Canons Regular, of the Congregation of ST. VICTOR, by SIMON de ROCHFORD, Bishop of MEATH, who also erected the church into a cathedral, which he dedicated to the honour of ST. PETER and ST. PAUL. He died in the year 1224, and was buried here. In the year 1307, when RICHARD SWEETMAN presided over the abbey, some serious disturbances took place, in which he was murdered, as well as another friar, who endeavoured to apprehend the assassins. On the 1st of May, 1536, this house was suppressed by Parliament, and granted to King HENRY VIII. The prior of this house, was the third in dignity, and sat as a Baron in the House of Lords.

Mr. ARCHDALE notices an ancient tomb, said to have been placed there for a daughter of KING JOHN. I own this escaped my observation, but I observed another altar tomb exposed to the rude elements, on which there were the recumbent effigies of a male and female figure, habited in the *costume* of QUEEN ELIZA-

BETH. On its base is an inscription, which I had not time to decypher; but I am told by a gentleman of the country, that this monument was erected to the memory of two personages of the ROSCOMMON family.

2. At a short distance from NEWTOWN Abbey, but on the opposite banks of the River BOYNE, and immediately adjoining a bridge over that river, are the remains of a Priory of ST. JOHN the BAPTIST, which was erected in the thirteenth century for Crossbearers, or Crouched Friars; and the Bishops of MEATH were either the founders, or great benefactors to this house. The ruins are extensive, and partake of the castellated style of architecture: they group well with the river and adjoining bridge, and form a good subject for the pencil. Indeed, I have seen no place, during my extensive tour, so rich in subjects for the pencil, or more convenient in point of accommodations, than the town of TRIM, and its immediate neighbourhood. (Inn, REILLY Arms, post horses.)

SATURDAY 30th AUGUST. From TRIM to KILCOCK XI MILES, where we changed horses. This road, and the principal objects near it, have been before described.

From KILCOCK to DUBLIN XVI MILES. Road good. Passing through MAYNOOTH and LEIXLIP, I varied the road to DUBLIN, by

the recommendation of my friends, and crossing the LIFFEY, near LUCAN, continued to follow its northern banks, through a narrow vale, well wooded, and richly varied with gentlemen's seats. The southern declivities of the banks, facing the river, and which, till within these few years, produced only fern and furze, are now allotted to extensive and profitable plantations of strawberry plants. Enter the PHŒNIX Park, which, on this side, presented more natural beauties than I could have imagined; and a most advantageous, and even picturesque, view of the City of DUBLIN.

I strongly recommend to every traveller the northern banks of the LIFFEY; the road is somewhat longer, but better, and the superior scenery which it affords, will amply recompense him for so trifling a *detour*.

On Monday night, 1 September, we sailed from DUBLIN in the SPENSER Packet, (Captain FELLOWS,) and after a most favourable passage of eleven hours, landed safely at HOLYHEAD.

GENERAL REMARKS.

ANTIQUITIES. Historical order requires, that we should first direct our attention to those objects which lay claim to the most remote antiquity. Amongst these, the rude pillars, and *cromlechs* erected by the ancient inhabitants of our island, (most probably for religious purposes,) bear the preeminence in point of seniority; of the same date are *many* of the *tumuli* and *carnedds* dispersed over the face of the country: I say, *many*, because *some* are evidently *military* works of a much more modern period.

The construction of stone temples and *cromlechs*, has generally been attributed to the Druids, but without any certainty of proof. The former consisted of one or more circles of rude stones set upright, surrounded by a ditch and rampart; the former being dug on the *inside* of the circle; by which peculiarity they are distinguished from *military* works, where the ditches are usually dug on the *outside*, as a guard against the enemy. A fine example of this dis-

tinguishing character of the religious and military earthen works, may be seen at ABURY in Wiltshire, close to the great road, between MARLBOROUGH and DEVIZES, and near the village of BECKHAMPTON.

In the grand and well preserved temple, called STONEHENGE, we see a work of greater art, and consequently of a much later æra, yet still beyond the reach of history. In the construction of this building [whose ground plan represents two ovals within two circles, surrounded by a slight ditch] a greater skill and knowledge of masonry are displayed : the upright stones have an impost upon them, connected by a mortise and tenon ; and the whole bear the marks of the chissel ; whereas in the more ancient temple at ABURY, the upright stones have no imposts, and are put up in the same rude state they were drawn from their native quarry.

I have every reason to suppose, that one of these stone temples existed formerly on the CURRAGH of KILDARE : the elevated situation, and the nature of the soil of that plain, admirably suited both the inclinations and habits of the Britons ; and when I perceive the *tumuli* of their dead, can I doubt of their prior existence on that favoured spot ? Nor should tradition, however apparently envelopped in the thick veil of fiction and romance, be *totally* un-

heeded; for the sun will oftentimes suddenly burst forth through the mist, and by its enlightening rays, dispel the darkness that before prevailed. From ancient tradition we learn, that a stone temple once existed on the CURRAGH of KILDARE, and was called the *Circle of the Giants*, because they brought it from the furthest part of Africa into Ireland; from whence the British King, AMBROSIUS, by the assistance of MERLIN the magician, transplanted it to the plains of WILTSHIRE, and placed it on a spot where the Temple of STONEHENGE now stands*.

From which tradition I should draw the following inference; namely, that a stone temple existed in ancient times on the CURRAGH of KILDARE, and that by the desire of King AMBROSIUS, one MERLIN went into Ireland, and brought back with him a plan of that temple, from which the one of STONEHENGE was afterwards erected.

By these means only can I interpret this tradition; for the removal of such stones, is evidently impossible; and we fortunately can bring evidence to prove from whence they were conveyed to STONEHENGE. Nor will I consent to give this stupendous temple, which adorns my native county, so *recent* a date as

* *Giraldus Cambrensis, Topographia Hiberniæ.* Chap. xix. lib. 2.

the period in which the British King AURELIUS AMBROSIUS flourished *.

Next to the stone temples comes that species of monument called CROMLECH, derived from the British words *crom*, or *crom*, bending; and *llech*, a stone that is flat, or bends downwards. Their original destination has not yet been clearly ascertained; some antiquaries having supposed them to have served as altars for sacrifice; and others to have been erected as sepulchral memorials.

Of these several are dispersed through Ireland; some few of which I have had occasion to mention during my tour; and many others have been described by Mr. WRIGHT, in his *Louthiana*, and in the lately published *Statistical Surveys*.

Though the *subterraneous* temple cannot be said to be *exclusively* peculiar to this country, yet the Sister Kingdom cannot boast of any one either so large, or in such perfect preservation, as the one at NEW GRAINGE, near SLANE, which I have described in my journal; and which is one of the most curious monuments of

* *Aurelius Ambrosius*, reigned over Britain in the fifth century, and according to the historian *Cressy*, was poisoned by the treachery of one *Pascentius*, in the year 497, after a reign of thirty-one years.

antiquity remaining within the limits of the United Kingdom.

Coeval with the *Stone Temple* and the *Cromlech*, are the *Carnedds* and the *Tumulus*, or Barrow; the former signifying in the British language, a heap of stones; the latter, in the Latin tongue, a heap, or mound; the former piled up with stone, the latter with earth; each material being used indiscriminately, according to the nature of the soil surrounding the place destined for the sepulchral memorial. Thus, in the extensive plains of WILTSHIRE and DORSETSHIRE, we see the *Tumulus* formed in the most correct and beautiful manner, of the fine turf with which the chalky downs are covered; whilst on the ruder mountains of WALES and IRELAND, we see the *Carnedd* still following the shape of the *Tumulus*, though differing in the materials of its construction.

Specimens of each occurred to me during my tour; and I much regretted that I had not leisure to examine some of their contents: From the ancient relics found in them, and deposited in the Museum at Dublin, I do not hesitate to pronounce them the places of interment of the most ancient inhabitants of our island. Whether CELTIC, or BELGIC, I know not, but the resemblance of the urns, stone-hatchets, flint arrow heads, brass spears, &c. found under the

Irish *tumuli*, with those I have seen dug up in Wiltshire, evidently proves these articles to have been deposited about the same æra, and by a people preserving the same habits and rites of burial. The description of a most curious *Carn*, discovered in the County of Down, may be seen in *Vallancey's Collectanea*, vol. vi. page 290.

ORATORIES, CHAPELS, and ROUND TOWERS. At the time when christianity was introduced into this island, the cell of the holy man partook of the humility of his own disposition. A cavern sheltered him from the severity of the storm; a flat stone served him for a bed; the roots of the earth, and the limpid spring, for food. The sanctity of his life and conduct, attracted the attention of the faithful, and by their zeal, an humble chapel of devotion was erected near the hermit's cell.

Of these we find some very singular examples in Ireland: one of which I have mentioned, in a perfect state at KILLALOE, and the fragment of another on DEVENISH Island. Their construction was very simple, and entirely of stone; the roof being drawn up to a point in the form of a wedge; the arches round, and the architecture plain and unornamented: the Saxon decorations employed on CORMAC'S

Chapel, at CASHEL, prove *that* building to be of a *later* date, though the stone roof is still made use of*.

ROUND TOWERS. I am inclined to think, that these singular buildings were erected about the same time as the stone-roofed chapels, and that they were the work of the Irish.

GIRALDUS CAMBRENSIS, who wrote his account of Ireland in the year 1185, distinguishes them as towers belonging to churches built after the manner of the country. "*Turres ecclesiasticæ quæ, more patrio, arcuæ sunt et altæ, necnon et rotundæ.*" The opinions about their original destination, have been as varied as they have been discordant.

JOHN LYNCH, an Irish writer, calls them *clochteach*, or the house of the bell, and attributes their construction to the Danes.

PETER WALSH supposes them to have been erected *first* by the Danes, as watch-towers against the natives †, and appropriated afterwards to holy uses, as steeple-houses, and bell-fries: they are also attributed by Dr. MOLYNEUX to the Danes.

Mr. HARRIS thinks, that (like the pillars in

* Cormac, son of Culinan, King of Munster, and Archbishop of Cashel, lived in the beginning of the tenth century.

† The low situation in which several of these towers are placed, militates strongly against this supposition.

the east) they may have been erected for the reception of Anachorite Monks ; and says, that according to tradition, an Anachorite lived at the top of one of these Round Towers at DRUMLAHAN in the County of CAVAN, which retained the name of *Cloch-Ancoire*, or the stone of the Anchorite.

Dr. SMITH, in his *History of Cork*, quotes an Irish manuscript, in which the use of these buildings is said to have been to imprison penitents, and that they were called "*Inclusoria*, or *arcti inclusorii ergastula*," the prisons of narrow inclosure. The MS. adds, that the penitents were at first placed on the top of the tower, when having made a probation of a particular number of days, according to their crimes, they were allowed to descend to the next floor, and so on, till they came to the door, which always faced the entrance of the church, where they stood, and received the absolution of the clergy, and the blessings of the people. The same author further adds, that in a MS. containing some annals of MUNSTER, mention is made of the building the tower of KINETH, [in the County of Cork] about the year 1015, soon after the celebrated battle fought between the Irish and Danes at CLONTARF near Dublin. The same author observes, in his *History of Waterford*, " that the Round Tower at ARDMORE, had been evidently used

as a belfry, as a part of the oak beam remained from which the bell was suspended; and that two channels were cut in the cill of the door, where the rope came out; and thus the bell was sounded by the ringer, who stood below on the outside of the doorway."

In the first volume of the English *Archæologia*, is a dissertation, (with a view) on the Round Tower of ARDMORE, by PETER COLLINSON, which is little more than a repetition of the remarks made by Dr. SMITH. This paper is answered in the second volume of the same work, by OWEN SALUSBURY BRERETON, Esq. who says, "When I lately made the tour of the south-west parts of Ireland, I saw several of these buildings, called usually Penitential Towers; not one of them had either belting or girting, *nor the least sign of their having been any room in them, till within ten feet of the top*: that room had windows exactly facing the cardinal points; from thence, downward to the entrance, which is about fifteen feet from the surface of the ground, only a few slits were cut, just to give light to persons going up and down stairs." This author thinks them to be of Irish construction, but prior to the use of bells*.

* This assertion respecting there having been no rooms in the round towers, till within ten feet of the top, does not hold good

There is another dissertation on these buildings, by the Rev. THOMAS HARMER, in the ninth volume of the *Archæologia*, in which he quotes the description given by a modern Greek writer, of a square tower in the Holy Land, which was appropriated to the same purposes, as those in Ireland are supposed (by some authors) to have been. "On the outside of the walls, and on the west (of the monastery), is a square tower of three stories, and twelve yards in diameter, in which two or three Hermits shut themselves, who live in a very austere manner. On the upper story is a bell, which, whenever any visitors come from Jerusalem, is rung to give notice to the doorkeeper of the convent for their reception. The entrance into it is by a stone staircase of fourteen steps, and is distant from the walls of the tower about twelve feet. On the top of the staircase is a drawbridge, which communicates with the door of the tower, to which chains are fixed on each side, and it is hoisted up from the inside of the door, and never let down except necessity requires."

with respect to the generality of these buildings ; for in almost every one that fell under my own inspection; I observed the marks of *distinct stories and flooring* : and the windows, though narrow, were decidedly such, and one was appropriated to every story, except the upper one, which had four.

Whilst some authors have attributed these buildings to the Irish, and others to the Picts and Danes, a learned antiquary, now living, General VALLANCEY, has sought out for them a still more remote origin. He supposes them to have been erected by the Old Irish, or *Aire-Coti*, the primitive inhabitants of Britain, and the western isles, who, after the religion of the Brahmins, worshipped fire*; and mentions a passage in *Hanway's Travels*, vol. i. p. 292. in which similar buildings, appropriated to the same religious purposes, are described: "SARI was built by the ancient Persians; there are yet there four temples of the GEBRES, or worshippers of fire, who formerly inhabited all this coast. These edifices are rotund, about thirty feet in diameter, and raised to a point near one hundred and twenty feet." After suggesting, that they were originally erected by the *worshippers of fire*, he thus concludes: "That these towers were used as belfries, there can be no doubt, and why they should not have been so used before christianity was introduced, I know no reason. The same cause existed,

* The pyramidal flame seems to have given the idea of the *Round Towers*, which were conical, and ended in a point at top, both in HINDOSTAN, and in IRELAND.

Vallancey, vol. vi. p. 123.

namely, that of assembling the people to devotion. The Egyptians had bells, and the Irish *ceol*, (*keol*) a bell, and its diminutive *keolan*, a little bell, was certainly derived from the Egyptian *kel*, a bell *.

On comparing and considering the various accounts which have been drawn up by so many able and intelligent antiquaries, I am inclined to favour the opinion of Dr. SMITH, which is strongly grounded upon the tradition of an ancient Irish manuscript.

The figure of our Saviour on the cross, which is sculptured over the key stone of the doorway to the Round Tower at DONAGHMORE, will at once overturn the ingenious system of General VALLANCEY, and prove these buildings to have been of *Christian*, not of *Pagan*, origin. The same religious emblem is also sculptured on the arch of a Round Tower at BRECHIN, in Scotland.

These towers differ in their respective heights and dimensions, as well as in the number of their floors, and in the height of the door from the ground †. They vary also in their distances

* *Vallancey Collectanea*, vol. vi. p. 156.

† Mr. *Weld*, in his late publication, says, that the round towers at *Swords*, and *Cluanmacnoise*, have entrances level with the surface of the ground.

from the church, but most usually bear a north-western position. They were divided into different stories, of which I saw evident marks in the projecting stonework, left for the support of the floor. Each of these floors had *one* window to light it; and the upper room had invariably *four*. I am inclined to think, that one and the same plan was followed in drawing up the roof into the shape of a cone; and that the battlements, with which we see some of them crowned, were a more modern addition after the decay of the original stone roof. Their architecture was simple, and the masonry very good: they sprung (frequently, but not always,) from a projecting plinth, which served as a base, and diminished gradually from the bottom to the top. In one only of these towers have I observed any sculptured decorations, namely, on that in DEVENISH Island, on LOUGH ERNE, where a rich cornice encircles the stone roof, and the centre of each of the four upper windows, is ornamented with a human head.

If I am allowed to hazard a conjecture about these singular buildings, I should suppose them to have been erected about the ninth century, and nearly at the same time with the stone-roofed chapels, at which period Ireland abounded with holy men, and was much resorted to as a seminary for learning and religion. The chapel at CASHEL must have been erected either

at the end of the ninth, or the beginning of the tenth century, as CORMAC, its founder, was slain in battle A. D. 908; but as this building is richly decorated with sculpture, and built in a very superior style of architecture, we cannot consider it as one of the earliest specimens of this kind of structure.

I think also we may safely give the credit of their construction to the native Irish: that they were very numerous in former days, the modern survivors will amply testify; and that they were built after the *usual* method and plan of the country, (*more patrio*) and had a connexion with the adjoining churches, being called "*turres ecclesiasticæ*," the passage before cited from GIRALDUS, will sufficiently prove. They seem however to have been almost peculiar to Ireland, as there are none in England or Wales, and only two in Scotland; the designs of which were probably brought over by some Irish architect, at a period when there was a great intercourse between the two nations. These Round Towers are situated at ABERNETHY, in the County of MURRAY, and at BRECHIN, in the County of ANGUS; each on the eastern coast of Scotland; and far remote from Ireland. The description given by Mr. GORDON, in his *Itinerarium Septentrionale*, of the Round Tower at ABERNETHY, would answer equally well with any one in Ireland. He says, "At

ABERNETHY, the ancient capital of the Pictish nation, I could discover nothing except a stately hollow pillar, without a staircase, so that when I entered within, and looked upward, I could scarce forbear imagining myself at the bottom of a deep draw-well. It has only one door, or entrance, facing the north, somewhat above the basis; the height of which is eight foot and a half, and the breadth two foot and a half. Towards the top are four windows, equidistant, and five foot nine inches in height, and two foot two inches in breadth, and each is supported by two small pillars. At the bottom are two rows of stones, projecting from beneath, which served for a basis, or pedestal. The whole height of the pillar is seventy-five foot; the external circumference at the base is forty-eight foot, but diminishes somewhat towards the top, and the thickness of the wall is three foot and a half.

The same author, in describing the other Round Tower at BRECHIN, says, "It differs little in shape from that at ABERNETHY, only it was larger, and covered at top; for its height, including the roof, was a hundred foot; the external circumference is forty-seven foot, and the thickness of the walls three foot eight inches. However this has no pedestal like the other, but seems to shoot out of the ground like a tree. It has a door fronting the south,

the height and breadth of which differ little from ABERNETHY ; only upon it are evidences sufficient to demonstrate, "*that it was a Christian work, for over the top of the door, is the figure of our Saviour on the cross.*"

Drawings of this last tower have been given by LEDWICH, PENNANT, and Mr. GOUGH, who, in the second volume of the *Archæologia*, has corrected an error of GORDON, respecting the door, as he calls it, which is only two arches, one within the other in relief."

As it may be satisfactory to some of my readers to know in what provinces the remains of these singular buildings are situated, I shall subjoin the best account I can collect, from the various authors who have recorded them*.

COUNTY OF ANTRIM. At ANTRIM†. ARDMOY.

RAM ISLAND in LOUGH NEAGH.

COUNTY OF CAVAN. At DRUMLAHAN.

COUNTY OF CLARE. At DRUMCLIFF. INNISCATTERY, an island on the River SHANNON. INISKELTAIR, an island in LOUGH DERG, on the same river.

* Dr. Beaufort, and Mr. Ledwich, have given lists of these Round Towers, which I have compared with *Seward's Topographical Dictionary*, and have mentioned only those in my text, which are recorded by the three respective writers.

† This Round Tower does not stand immediately in the town, but at a short distance from it.

COUNTY OF CORK. At BALLYBEG. BRIGOWNE.
CORK. CLOYNE. KINEIGH, or KINEATH*.

COUNTY OF DOWN. At DRUMBO. DOWN-PATRICK †. MAGHERA.

COUNTY OF DUBLIN. At CLONDALKIN. LUSK. SWORDS. RATHMICHAEL.

COUNTY OF FERMANAGH. On DEVENISH ISLAND, in LOUGH ERNE ‡.

COUNTY OF GALWAY. At BALLYGADDY. FEARTAMORE. KILMACDUAGH §.

COUNTY OF KILDARE. At CASTLE DERMOT. KILDARE. KILCULLEN. OUGHTERARD. TAGHADOE.

* The architecture of this tower varies from all others in Ireland, the *first* story being a regular hexagon, and tradition dates the construction of this tower in the year 1015. Mr. *Ledwich* mentions a tower at *Ballywerk*, in this county; but it is not noticed either by *Archdale*, or *Seward*.

† On taking down this Round Tower, the vestiges of a still more ancient building, and of good masonry, were found under it.

‡ This is the most ornamented Round Tower I have seen, having a sculptured cornice round its stone roof.

§ Mr. *Seward* says, that this tower leans $17\frac{1}{2}$ feet from its perpendicular, and that the celebrated one at *Pisa* leans only 13 feet.

Mr. *Ledwich* mentions another tower at *Kilbennan*, in this county, but neither *Seward* nor *Archdale* take notice of it.

COUNTY OF KILKENNY. AGHAVULLER. FERTAGH. KILKENNY. KILREE. TULLOHERIN.

KING'S COUNTY. At CLONMACNOISE, two *.

COUNTY OF LIMERICK. At DYSERT. KILMALLOCK †.

COUNTY OF LOUTH. At DROMISKIN. MONASTERBOYCE.

COUNTY OF MAYO. At AGHAGOVER. BALLAGH. KILLALA. MELICK. TURLOGH ‡.

COUNTY OF MEATH. At DONAGHMORE §. At KELLS.

COUNTY OF MONAGHAN. At CLONES ||.

QUEEN'S COUNTY. At TIMAHOE.

COUNTY OF ROSCOMMON. At BOYLE. ORAN.

* Mr. *Ledwich* mentions two Round Towers at *Ferbane*, but the other authors are silent on this subject.

† Mr. *Ledwich* mentions a Round Tower at *Limerick*, in addition to the other two.

‡ Mr. *Ledwich* takes notice of a tower at *Newcastle*, in this county, but I can find no such place mentioned (as in this district) by the other authors. The author of the *Statistical Survey of the County of Mayo*, says, that there is a Round Tower at the town of *Bal*, fifty feet high. *Quere*. Is not this the same recorded by Mr. *Ledwich*, as at *Ball*, in the County of *Sligo*?

§ Over the keystone of the door at *Donaghmore*, is the figure of our Saviour on the cross, sculptured on the stone: an evident proof, that these buildings were of *Christian*, not *Pagan* origin.

|| Dr. *Beaufort* takes notice of a tower at *Eniskeen*, in this

COUNTY OF SLIGO. At DRUMCLIFFE. SLIGO,
two*.

COUNTY OF TIPPERARY. At CASHEL. ROS-
CREA.

COUNTY OF WATERFORD. At ARDMORE.

COUNTY OF WICKLOW. At GLANDALOGH,
two.

COUNTY OF WESTMEATH. At DYSART.

county. N.B. in his Map, this place is written *Inniskeen*. On the borders of *Cavan*, and this county, is a place called *Enniskeen*. In the *Statistical Survey* of this county, a Round Tower is recorded at *Inniskeen*, whose door is level with the surface.

* Mr. *Ledwich*, in his list of Round Towers, places one at *Ball*, and another at *Moat*, in this county. But I can find no account of them in any other book: the author of the *Statistical Survey* of this County, is erroneous in stating, "that the door is never lower than about twenty feet from the foundation." There seems to have been no general rule for the height of the doors, and few are so high as twenty feet from the surface.

The following measurements (extracted from Mr LEDWICH's Antiquities) will throw a further light upon the mode of construction adopted with respect to these Round Towers.

Round Towers.	Height.	Circumference.	Thickness of Walls.	Door from Ground.	Stories.
CLOYNE	92	50	3 8	13	
FERTAGH	112	48	3 8	10	5
KILCULLEN	40	44	3 6	7	3
KILMACDUAGH	110	57		24	
TEGHADOW	71	38	3 8	11 6	6
DOWNPATRICK	66	47	3		
DEVENISH ISLE	76	41	3 6		
MONASTERBOYCE	110	51	3 6	6	6
TIMAHOE	35	53	4 4	14	7
KILDARE	110	54	3 6	13	6
OUGHTERARD	25	48	3	8	5
CASHEL		54	4	11	5
SWORDS		55	4 8	2	
DRUMISKIN	130				
KENITH	70				
KELLS	99				

STONE CROSSES. The next relick of antiquity that demands our notice, is the Cross, of which Ireland presents many curious and well preserved specimens. They are neither of that light and taper form, nor elegant Gothic workmanship, by which the crosses, erected by our English monarch, EDWARD the First, to the memory of ELEANOR, his Queen, were so particularly distinguished: but though simple in their design, they are yet rich in sculpture. I have had occasion during my journal, to men-

tion two perfect, and one imperfect Crosses at MONASTERBOYCE, as well as two rich fragments remaining at KELLS; at which place, I heard of others existing in a perfect state, at a place called CASTLE KYRAN, in that neighbourhood. In the second volume of VALLANCEY's *Collectanea*, are the engravings of two other Crosses, standing in the churchyard of CASTLE DERMOT, in the County of KILDARE, with inscriptions said to be in the OGHAM characters, and supposed to bear the date of the tenth century. It is difficult to fix the period of their construction, but I should imagine them coeval with the Round Tower, and the work of the ninth or tenth century; but I cannot think that the OGHAM Character (if such a character ever existed) was in use so late as the tenth century.

I must repeat my fervent wish, that the members of the learned societies at Dublin, will rescue from oblivion these interesting relicks of Irish antiquity, by sending some ingenious artist through the country, to make exact plans and drawings of them: and that they will afterwards make their merits public, either by engraving them in the Transactions of their own Society, or transmit them for that purpose to the Society of Antiquaries in London.

EARTHEN WORKS. By them I mean banks

and mounds of earth, raised into various shapes, and applied to different purposes. Of these, Ireland presents a very great variety : but their characters have not been sufficiently distinguished by the Irish writers, who have applied to them the general term of *Rath*, and attributed their formation to the Danes. The word *Rath* appears to be a corruption from *Raad*, which, in the Danish language, signifies, a *council* ; and which is interpreted by *Lhuyd*, in his Irish-English Dictionary, a village, a prince's seat ; also, an artificial mount, or barrow.

These *Earthen Works* may be classed in the following order.

1. A mound of earth formed in the shape of a cone, and finishing in a point at top, encircled generally by a slight ditch.

I have no doubt but these *tumuli* were originally raised for sepulchral uses, and by the early CELTIC or BELGIC tribes who inhabited Ireland. Many of these have been opened, and found to contain ashes, bones, urns, and other ornaments ; and in a great degree corresponding with those discovered by me in Wiltshire ; a proof that the respective inhabitants of the age, when these mounds of earth were thrown up, made use of the same modes of burial*.

* Though in *many* instances, the articles found in *Ireland*

Some of these mounds are flat at top, but whether originally made so, or levelled in subsequent times by art, I will not pretend to decide; the surface however appears to be too small to have answered any military or civil purpose; and I am rather inclined to think, that they are sepulchral.

2. A large circle surrounded by a raised *agger* of earth, and a slight ditch. Of similar works I observed several during my tour, and

under *tumuli* correspond entirely with those found in *Wiltshire*, and equally point out the rude age in which they were deposited; yet in *other* cases they vary, and seem to indicate a *later* æra. In the few examples I saw deposited at Trinity College, and at the Dublin Society, I could not but notice, that the sepulchral urns, though equally ill baked with those of England, were in general more ornamented. I have observed also the same peculiarity with respect to some discovered lately in Wales. The ornaments of gold are also richer, and more numerous; for I have been seldom fortunate enough to find articles of gold in our Wiltshire Barrows. But the superior richness of the Irish urns, &c. &c. may be easily, and, I think, *conclusively* reconciled by those who do not seek for their ancestors amongst the *Scythæ*, *Iberi*, or *Air Cotti*, but are contented to derive their origin from the *Celtic* and *Belgic* tribes, who poured in upon us from the Continent of Gaul, and after having first peopled the more southern parts of Britain, opposite their own coast, extended their colonies into Wales, Scotland, and Ireland; and thus the superior richness of the Irish urns, gold ornaments &c. (being the work of a much later colony, and perhaps, *Belgic*,) may be rationally accounted for.

frequently there were two near to each other. The name of *Rath* may, I think, more appropriately be applied to these, as from their dimensions, and slight elevation, they were calculated for those conferences and meetings which the word literally implies ; and the circumstance of finding two adjoining each other, seems to strengthen this supposition. These cannot be sepulchral, as no such elevated form is to be found amongst the great variety of barrows which the chalky downs of the west of England present.

3. High raised circular *tumulus*, with more than one fosse. These are evidently military works ; as are likewise

4. Those with ramparts and out works. The most common plan, is a high circular mound, with a square or oblong work attached to it, the whole surrounded by one or more ditches. This mode of fortification was adopted also in Wales ; and from the circumstance related in the Chronicles of that country, of their frequent demolition, and their very speedy reedification, I have reason to suppose, that the buildings upon them were made of wood ; otherwise they never could have been so quickly destroyed and restored. There is a greater uniformity in the military earthen Works of Ireland, than in those of England and Wales ; neither are they

so complicated in their form ; or so stupendous in their proportions *.

RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS. By the minute detail I have already given of those abbies and religious houses, which occurred during the progress of my tour, it will be seen, that they cannot stand in competition with those either in England, Scotland, or Wales. Their ruins in general bespeak an æra when the *Pointed Order* had lost much of its elegant and captivating simplicity. The stone chapel of CORMAC, at CASHEL, is no where to be surpassed, and is "*itself an host*," in point of remote and singular antiquity. And although monastick architecture may fall short, both in design and good execution, and be obliged to yield the palm of superiority to the Sister Kingdoms, yet, Ireland, in her stone roofed Chapels, Round Towers, and rich Crosses, may justly boast of singularities unknown, and unpossessed by either of them †.

* The earthen work near *Dorchester* (Dorsetshire) called *Maiden Castle*, is by far the most stupendous work I have ever seen: *Old Sarum*, perhaps, may be placed *second* in the list. *Yarnbury Castle*, between *Deptford Inn* and *Amesbury*, and *Barbury Castle*, near *Marlborough*, in the County of Wilts, are also fine specimens of this ancient mode of castrametation.

† On viewing the numerous monastick remains, with which almost every part of Ireland abounds, the stranger will naturally be

But I should ill perform the duty I owe to my own feelings as a man of humanity, and as a citizen of that community which has so lately united each nation under the general appellation of *Briton*, were I to quit this subject, without noticing more strongly than I have hitherto done during my Journal, the disgraceful state in which several of the cemeteries are suffered to remain *.

From the earliest ages, and even by the most savage nations, the greatest respect has ever been paid to the bones and ashes of the deceased; but in Ireland, their sad relicks, after a short abode in the clay-cold mansion, are again restored to light, and the floors of the once hallowed abbey, become white with their thickly mouldering fragments †.

led to reflect on the former opulence and state of prosperity, which this country must have enjoyed; now alas! how fallen in religious grandeur and establishments!

These ruins are more numerous in the Southern and Western Provinces; and the scarcity of them in the north of Ireland, may be accounted for by the superior degree of population, industry, and commerce, which that district enjoys; and where the stately abbey has furnished materials for the manufactory.

* The ruined Abbies of *Lislaghtin*, *Ardfert*, *Mucruss*, and *Buttevant*, have come immediately under my own observation: and doubtless many others in Ireland present the same disgusting appearance.

† In a note on *Mucruss* (Journal) I presented to my readers

I address myself to you YE, REVEREND GUARDIANS of the church, and of the *manes* of your fellow citizens. To you it belongs to rescue them from their present exposed and disgraceful situation. Examine either personally, or by your *Rural Deans*, (if such exist) the state of your churches and cemeteries. They are a disgrace to your country; a disgrace to humanity. A field of battle only can equal the disgusting and desolated appearance which this Irish Golgotha presents to the astonished stranger: "Your task is easy, and the burden will be light." A charnel house of simple architecture, corresponding with that of the adjoining ruins, and placed under some aged yew tree, with the plain and impressive motto of *FUIMUS* over its portal, would add both awe and interest to the hallowed scenery. Who has not beheld with such-like sentiments the ossu-

Sir John Carr's *warning* to those strangers whose curiosity might lead them to examine the interior of this ruined abbey: and that I may endeavour to impress the *Reverend Prelates* to whom I here address myself, with an idea of the disgraceful and revolting state in which its cemetery is suffered to remain, I will add an extract from a still later publication. "*Illustrations of the Scenery of Killarney, by Isaac Weld, Esq. &c.*" In speaking of *Mucruss* abbey, this writer says, "In a passage leading to the cloyster, I once found a head, with a considerable part of the flesh of the face, and nearly the entire hair upon it, literally rolling under my feet."

ary at MORAT, in SWITZERLAND, where the mouldering remains of the BURGUNDIAN Army record to future ages the triumph of the brave HELVETIANS? and who does not view even the representation of the Skull Chamber in Mr. BARROW's description of *Cochin China*, with a certain degree of awe and reverence.

So much for *Antiquity*. Let us now turn our eyes towards the *modern* prospect which the capital and its provinces present to the *Stranger in Ireland*. A native writer has observed, that "from the first view of Dublin, we must not judge of its provincial cities and villages:" yet in some degree the comparison will hold good between the town and country. In the *former*, and particularly in the capital, we behold a city abounding with the most splendid works of architecture; extensive in their plans, and imposing in their effect: yet at every step, our feelings and senses are assailed by misery, filth, and beggary*. In the *latter*, the same magnificence of idea is extended to the nobleman

* So badly regulated is the police of Dublin, that (as I was credibly informed) dead bodies are frequently exposed in the streets, to procure, by charity, the means of burying them: and I was also told, that a mother had carried about the streets her infant who died of the small pox, in order to excite the compassion of those she met.

and gentleman's demesne: we see splendid houses, with inadequate establishments; extensive parks, and pleasure-grounds oftentimes neglected, and generally ill kept; in short the plans, both of the public and of the individual, seem in this country both to have been formed and executed on a scale beyond the powers of either, and the "*simplex munditiis*," the neat and clean simplicity, is seldom to be found in either situation.

In travelling through Ireland, the attention is immediately and most forcibly arrested by the situation of the *labouring poor*; and both the eye and mind are in a certain degree *compelled* to dwell upon this distressing object, by the general want of interest which the surface of the country affords. They are seldom relieved by picturesque scenery, or by improved agriculture; but the *poor man's hovel*, every where presents itself, and encourages a train of thought most galling to humanity. In describing the state of the poor throughout the different provinces, the authors of the *Statistical Surveys*, have performed both their duty to the public, and to themselves, as men of feeling, in painting the miseries of the poor in the strongest colours. As their own words need no comment, and will speak more emphatically than any from the mouth of a *stranger*, I shall make use of them on this occasion.

Mr. TIGHE, in his "*Survey of the County of Kilkenny*," says, "The peasants are most miserably lodged; there are numbers who have not a bedstead, nor even what is called a truckle bed frame; a pallet to sleep on, is a comfort unknown to them; a wad of straw, or perhaps heath laid on a damp clay floor, forms their resting place; but very few of them have any thing like sheets; their blankets are wretchedly bad; in short, their bed clothes are ragged and scanty; they put their coats and petticoats over them in aid of blankets in cold weather: too often these are still damp, having been but imperfectly dried by a miserable fire, after they were worn at work in the rain. Even through the scanty thatch, the rain sometimes descends upon their beds, and bringing down the sooty substance lodged there by the smoke of the cabin, wets and stains the bed itself, and those who are stretched upon it."

Neither are the habitations of the poor, except in the immediate neighbourhood of some man of feeling, who has looked upon them with an eye of pity, (and few indeed are these examples), at all more comfortable in other provinces: in short, the above may serve as a *general* and *just* description of the *poor man's hovel*. I shall however subjoin a few more extracts from other County Surveys.

CAVAN. "In civilization, they have made no proficiency, for the very wealthiest of these mountaineers have no better bed than straw, nor is a bedstead to be seen amongst them; but they indiscriminately herd together with the hogs, and all the domestic animals of their hovel. In more minutely examining the condition of this abandoned peasantry, we have an opportunity of seeing far into human nature, and behold the natives happy, and abundantly possessed of those qualifications which endear mankind to each other. In acts of friendship to their neighbours, they are rarely deficient. Their generous hospitality to strangers is proverbial; for educating their children they are particularly anxious, and a close attention to religion is universally prevalent; and though their ideas may be strongly tinctured with superstition, it only argues that their minds have been totally neglected; and they shew a great wish and anxiety for instruction even in religious concerns."

QUEEN'S COUNTY. "Truly it may be said, that the *hogs* in England have more comfortable dwellings than the majority of the *peasantry* in Ireland. How can we expect propriety of conduct from our peasants, when we take so little pains to improve them? In how many places do we find the whole stock of domestic

animals, and the peasant family, herd together under one miserable shed, with perhaps no better covering than sods or weeds ; and from their extreme filth alone, what ravages has sickness made through a whole district !

MONAGHAN. "A bare recital of the state of this class of the community, has been considered as an unmerited satire on the country, and those who have endeavoured to call the attention of the public to the amelioration of their situation, have been stigmatized as *incendiaries*."

But the time, I hope, is not far distant, when the "*poor man's friend*"* will no longer be disgraced by such an opprobrious and ill-merited title ; when greater *confidence* will be established between him and his landlord ; and when greater *comforts* will be the happy result of that *confidence*.

These extracts will sufficiently prove the abject and distressed situation of the *labouring poor* throughout Ireland. Four mud walls, with one entrance, and frequently without either a window or a chimney, will in a few

* At the late anniversary of *Saint Patrick*, (17 March, 1807) upon the health of SIR JOHN NEWPORT (the Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer) being drank, the Right Hon. Baronet returned thanks, saying, "that he would be the *poor man's friend*, and the friend of his country ; and that whether *in* or *out* of office, his sentiments and principles would remain *unaltered*."

words describe the Irish hovel. 'Such was GILLO's habitation :

" At one of th' ends he keeps his cows,
At th' other end he kept his spouse :
On bed of straw, without least grumble,
Nay, with delight, did often tumble :
Without partition, or a skreen,
Or spreading curtain, drawn between,
Without concern, exposed they lay,
Because it was their country's way."

The rent of these cabins is from one to two guineas a year : the expence of building a mud cottage complete, has been stated in the *Survey of Derry*, to amount to £.8. 4s. 4d.

To each cabin is attached a plot of ground, of about an acre in quantity, which is cropped alternately with oats and potatoes, and sometimes a small portion of flax is added. With these supplies, the cottier rests contented ; the potatoes and oats afford him food for the year ; and the flax is spun into linen by the female part of his family. The overplus of corn and potatoes serves to fatten a pig, which is generally sold to defray a part of his rent, the remainder of which is made up by manual labour ; and thus all his *real* wants being supplied, the rest of his time is spent in total inactivity. I fear the character applied to the Irish by GIRALDUS de BARRI, in the *twelfth* century, may in some

degree be applied with equal propriety to them in the *nineteenth*.

“ Alone given up to ease: alone abandoned to sloth, they think it the greatest delight to be free from labour; they think it the greatest opulence to enjoy their liberty.”

“ *Solùm etiam otio dediti, solùm desidiæ dati, summas reputant delitias labore carere; summas reputant divitias libertate gaudere.*”

But in a country, where, owing to a want of capital and a contracted system of agriculture, employment cannot be found for the peasant, his idleness is in some degree palliated, and becomes an act of necessity.

If we ascend one step higher, we shall find a peasant renting a small farm, from eight to ten guineas a year, which enables him to keep a small dairy; but perhaps this class of men might be employed with more advantage to themselves and the public, if they worked for a more extensive farmer.

Of these, the stranger would suppose there were *none*, if he judged only from the general appearance of the farms and their offices; for we see no conveniences of sheds, stalling, fenced rick yards, &c. &c. as in England; nor is the house of a farmer, renting three or four hundred pounds a year, at all better than many of the cottages of our labouring poor: and until a new and more advantageous system of letting

estates is adopted ; until the class of *Middle Men** is annihilated ; and until the land holder

* The *Middle Man* has been described as the cause of the misery and poverty in the lower classes, and in England is considered as a sort of *non-descript monster* ; in fact he is the natural result of a competition for land, and of the *long leases* generally granted in this country : and this mischief results from the absolute want of a proper form of lease to guard against it. In a competition for lands, men capable of paying great rents, and good security, for the rents of large tracts of land, necessarily were preferred, and the *long* terms universally given in former times, and still very frequently, render it almost impossible to prevent the grounds being *relet* ; no man can be compelled to occupy ground during the whole continuance of a lease, which may and often does last 60 or 70 years ; a lease of three lives, or 31 years, which is not an uncommon lease even now, often extending to that term. This length of lease, and the power of *reletting*, encouraged *jobbers* of land, who took large tracts to *relet*, and of course they necessarily enhanced the rent of ground ; but it is desirable that there should be a competition for every thing, and no article can be for a long time above its value. In fact it appears to me, that the whole mischief of the *Middle Man* might be prevented by a non-alienation clause, under certain modifications, the object of which should be, not to oppress a tenant under a long lease, by forcing *him* or *her* to occupy ground when in a state of infancy, or inability ; and on the other hand, to take care that when *relet*, it should be done on terms to guard the proprietor from injury, and the under tenant from oppression. It is the practice of all *Middle Men* to *relet* for a term shorter by one, two, or three years than that for which they hold the ground ; and their object in so doing, is, to *reenter* into possession, in order to appear before the Head Landlord as the *tenant in occupation*, and to treat for a *new lease* ; and the

condescends to look with *his own*, and not *his agent's* eyes, over the plans of his estate ; the agriculture of the country can never be improved to that degree which the great fertility of its soil demands ; nor can the wretched situation of the labouring poor be materially amended.

Of the strong necessity of this measure, the Irish land holders seem to be fully sensible. Farming societies have been established in different parts of the country, and the most improved breeds of cattle, as well as the best

consequence of this practice is as fatal to the prosperity and industry of the under tenant, as it is to the general improvement of the country ; for the under tenant, who occupies and tills the ground, knows, that at the expiration of his term, the *Middle Man* will turn him out, in order to treat *himself* with the landlord for a new lease ; and in fact all connexion between the proprietor of the soil, and the man who tills it, is cut off : the latter can rarely look up to the former for encouragement, without creating the jealousy of the *Middle Man*, and instigating him still more to remove the under tenant, as soon as his lease is at an end ; and of course the under tenant has no motive to improve the ground he occupies, or to look to any thing but the immediate return. Proprietors of land have of late preferred letting it to the *occupiers*, and leases of 21 years are now becoming very common, whilst the increased price of land, and increasing means of paying for it among the middle classes, are rapidly doing away the *land-jobber*, or *Middle Man*, by profession. One of the greatest of these from *relet* ground, has profit rents of £.4000 per annum.

agricultural instruments have been imported from the Sister kingdom*.

* From the patriotic zeal of the noble Duke [BEDFORD] who at this time presides over the kingdom, much encouragement and improvement may be expected in this department. His serious attention has been also given to matters of still greater importance; to the establishment of schools, by which the benefits of a better education may be extended to the lower classes of his Majesty's subjects.

From another distinguished subject, (SIR JOHN NEWPORT) the country may expect to derive very important advantages. Many useful acts have been brought forward by him during the present session of Paliament, amongst which none will prove more gratifying to the *Stranger* than the abolition of the unnecessary offices at the customs, and the removal of their vexatious appendages.

“ To relieve the poor from every burden, of which possibility admitted the exemption; to restrain the oppressive exactions of petty authorities; to economize the public expenditure; to suppress places which had emolument and a name, but no utility; to regulate the revenue laws in such a manner, as at once to secure the independence of the fair trader, and the interest of the crown; to punish the secret, but successful eluder of national imports; to devise the means of diffusive improvement, and to give force and efficacy to such institutions as favoured this valuable purpose; to allay the irritations which are the offspring of religious bigotry, or of party zeal; to establish an harmonious unanimity, where discord had so long and so fatally prevailed: these, and such as these, were the worthy and magnificent designs which occupied all his meditations and all his toils.”

Extract from the Waterford Chronicle.

Such were the happy rays that began to illumine the uncivilized regions of *Hibernia*: and such was the pleasing prospect which the well-wishers for its prosperity had in view before them. The

But till we see farmers with *capital* engaged in agriculture, we cannot expect any very rapid improvement or alteration in the appearance of the country. "From a deficiency of *capital*, says a late writer, arises almost every other deficiency: deficiency in ditching, in draining, in manuring, in cropping, in exertion, and even in industry; for every faculty is dulled in every pursuit by difficulties arising from that essential want, the *want of capital* *."

Another author (ARTHUR YOUNG) says, "A man may have all the abilities in the world; write like a genius, talk like an angel, and really understand the business of farming in all its depths; but unless he has a proper *capital*, his farm will never be fit for exhibition, and then to condemn him, for not being a good farmer, in practice as well as theory, is just like abusing the inhabitants of the Irish cabins for not becoming excellent managers."

I could wish that more attention were paid to one important class of rural improvement, namely, *Planting* †; the more important, as the

cloud of party has on a sudden overshadowed them, and whether they will emerge with lustre, and present the same flattering prospect, time only can ascertain.

* *Survey of Derry*, p. 246.

† For the encouragement of planting, the Legislature passed an act, by which the *propriety* of all trees planted by tenants

whole island is so peculiarly destitute of wood. I am surprised that it has not been more generally attended to, as there is a most excellent regulation established by parliament, both to encourage and benefit the planter.

I never saw a country better adapted to the growth of trees, both in climate and soil. Whilst the richer ground is calculated for the oak, ash, and elm; and the poorer and more mountainous, for the larch and birch tree; the

(under leases for lives, or for any term exceeding 12 years,) becomes vested in the tenant, provided he registers at the Quarter Sessions the trees so planted; for which purpose he must first give notice, either in the Gazette, or by a notice served upon his landlord, or his agent, of his intention to register. He must then make oath of the *number* of trees planted by him within the last 12 months, stating the denomination of land, the name of his landlord, and the term of his lease; this is registered by the Clerk of the Peace, and a copy given to the planter. At the expiration of the lease, all trees standing on the farm, are to be offered to the landlord at a valuation, and if not purchased by him, the person who registers, or his representative, may cut down and carry off the timber. Hitherto no inconvenience to the landlord has been felt, but one appears evident, and not unlikely to occur; namely, by felling the trees upon an acre of ground, and leaving the roots in the ground, the land may be left useless, or the landlord obliged to incur a heavy expence by clearing it. I think the act ought to be amended, by obliging the tenant to *clear* the ground, which might be done at no great expence, if instead of *cutting* down, he *stubb*ed up the trees.

wet and marshy soil would repay a very high rent, by the cultivation of willow.

The utility of the three former species of timber trees, for every purpose of building and agriculture, is too well known to need any comment. The *thinnings* of the larch, [which in the first instance, should be planted thick, in order to shelter each other] would in a very few years repay the planter for his *first* expences. This tree, at the growth when first thinned, appears to me admirably calculated for the rafters of Irish cotts, for which there is so great a demand throughout the whole country*.

* In plantations of larch and other fir trees, I would strongly recommend a system which in my own woods I have followed for several years with great success, and which accident led me to adopt. I had often observed the smooth and taper form of a Scotch fir that stood in a cottage garden, and on enquiry, found that its lateral branches had constantly been trimmed up, from which arose the smooth surface of its stem. I adopted this system from that time, even in my old plantations, but with less advantage, than with those of a younger growth. I this year began to operate in the same manner on a plantation of larch firs made in the year 1796, about which age I found them sufficiently large to answer the purpose of rafters. But as the rapid or slow growth of trees depends entirely upon the soil in which they are planted, no *general* rules can be given about the *time* of thinning. When that time is come, I would recommend the trimming of those that remain to take place, taking care not to cut the branch off *close* to the stem, but leaving about an inch of it

The consumption also of willow in making baskets, and carts employed in the carriage of

remaining: this will rot off, and the bark, from which the tree derives its sustenance, will not be injured. The growth of this plant is so rapid, that a second, and a more profitable thinning, will be required in a very few years; and at the same time, a second trimming should be performed: thus will the growth of the timber not only be materially increased, but the value of it be enhanced by rendering it free from knots. I this year cut down the Scotch fir that had been planted by a cottager in his garden, which, owing to its repeated trimmings, presented the clearest stem I ever saw, being for thirty feet entirely free from knots.

To those who study the *beauty* of their trees, and not the *profit*, I do not mean to recommend this *trimming* system; but to them I will recommend a mode which I have often adopted, and which will add a great degree of beauty and consequence to some of the fir tribe. I particularly allude to the *spruce* fir; whose growth is spiral and uniform; in short, when you see *one* of the sort, you see the *whole* tribe. The nature of this tree is, as it grows *upwards*, to die *downwards*; but if before the *lower* branches begin to decay, you cut off the *leading* shoot at top, the formal and spiral outline will be destroyed; the tree will become more bushy, retain its lower branches, and assume a much more consequential appearance; and whenever any one *leader* gets the start of his neighbour, his progress should be again checked; and thus by continuing a similar operation from time to time, the luxuriant beauty of the tree will be preserved, as long as it survives. I have a curious instance in my gardens of a spruce fir, thus treated, trailing its lateral branches, first on the ground, and then shooting up again (like another tree) in a spiral form. To those who plant this tree as a *blind* to any disgusting objects, this mode is particularly eligible; otherwise after a few years, all the lateral branches (constituting the *blind*) will die away, and nothing will remain but a taper stem, and a pointed *apex*.

turf is so great, that marshy, and otherwise useless ground, could not be more profitably employed than in the cultivation of that plant.

Until a new and more enlarged system of agriculture prevails throughout the kingdom, it would be in vain to attempt the plantation of quick hedges, and hedge-row timber; though nothing would contribute so materially both to the beauty and advantage of the country, as the adoption of such a measure, and the consequent destruction of those small plots of ground, and high earthen fences, which so disfigure the general surface of the country.

After so short a residence in Ireland, it would be deemed presumptuous in me, to enter deeply into the actual state of agriculture: I may be allowed, however, to skim lightly over the surface, and to notice the most prominent features of a country little visited by strangers, and too little noticed by the natives. If we take a view, either of the country, climate, or inhabitants, Ireland can undoubtedly recommend itself to the notice of the stranger by its *novelty*: and what is the object of the stranger's tour but *novelty*? which carries along with it both amusement and instruction.

Without consulting the *arcana* of physiognomy, the most inattentive observer of human

nature, will soon remark, that the *Irishman* is a very different being from either the *Englishman*, or his neighbour the *Welshman* : he will see a hardy and active race of people, civil, and willing to serve and oblige the stranger : he will see, that *nature* has not been sparing in the endowment of his abilities, though *poverty* has denied him the power of improving them by education. A stranger will be struck with the *naivetè*, propriety and singularity of many of the expressions made use of even by the mendicants* : in short, the stuff is good, and requires only the skill and management of an able hand to form and fashion it. How different is the character of the *Welshman*, who, still bearing in his breast a deep-rooted jealousy and antipathy towards the English nation, (whom he distinguishes by the title of *Saxons*)

* The mendicant greets you with a variety of blessings and good wishes : “*God bless your honour ; God speed your honour : Good luck to your honour this morning,*” &c. &c. Their curses are equally strong and pointed ; what can be more so than “*May the grass grow before your door.*”

Amongst the many odd expressions I heard during my tour, the following may be classed amongst the most singular. One of my postilions, when stopping to refresh his horses with some hay and water, at a small public house, desired the maid servant, who acted as hostler, to make haste, and received for answer, “*Have patience, Pat ! had not your mother to wait for you before you were born.*” To *embroider a quilt*, or to *engrave a tombstone*, is another singular expression.

gives the stranger a reluctant answer, even on the most trivial occasions*; whilst the more ingenuous *Irishman*, with a blessing in his mouth, will run from one part of the kingdom to the other “*to serve his honour.*”

I found during the whole progress of my tour, the Irish peasant, though talkative and curious, yet always civil.

Amongst the peculiarities of dress, is the *long coat*, worn by the Irish: it is made of wool, and generally is of a grey colour; it resembles in make so much the great coats worn by the chairmen in London, that it is most probable this fashion was transported from Ireland to London. It is said to be derived from the *mantle* worn by the Gauls and northern nations, and to have answered the triple purposes of housing, bedding, and cloathing: for according to the account given of it by our English poet SPENSER, “it was a fit house for an out-law, a meet bed for a rebel, and an apt cloak for a thief.

* In drawing the parallel between the *Irishman* and the *Welshman*, I allude only to the *lower* class of people, whose ancient prejudices have not been removed by the enlightening aid of education. I could give numberless instances which have occurred to me during my repeated tours through Wales, of the jealousy and antipathy which the Welsh still bear to the English, and of the extraordinary civility, and even obsequiousness, they shew to the superior class of their own countrymen.

“ First, the *Out-law*, being for his many crimes and villanies banished from the towns and houses of honest men, and wandering in waste places, far from danger of law, maketh his mantle his house, and under it covereth himself from the wrath of heaven, from the offence of the earth, and from the sight of men. When it raineth, it is his pent-house; when it bloweth, it is his tent; when it freezeth, it is his tabernacle. In summer, he can wear it loose; in winter, he can wrap it close; at all times, he can use it; never heavy, never cumbersome. ”

“ Likewise for a *Rebel* it is as serviceable; for in the war that he maketh, when he flieth from his foe, and lurketh in the thick woods, and strait passages, waiting for advantages; it is his bed, yea, and almost his household stuff. For the wood is his house against all weathers, and his mantle is his couch to sleep in; therein he wrappeth himself round, and coucheth himself strongly against the gnats, which in that country, do more annoy the naked rebels, whilst they keep the woods, and do more sharply wound them, than all their enemies' swords or spears, which can seldom come nigh them. Yea, and oftentimes their mantle serveth them, when they are near driven, being wrapt about their left arm, instead of a target, for it is hard to cut through with a sword; besides, it is light

to bear, light to throw away, and being (as they commonly are) naked, it is to them all and all.

“ Lastly, for a *Thief*, it is so handsome, as it may seem it was first invented for him; for under it he may cleanly convey any fit pillage that cometh handsomely in his way; and when he goeth abroad in the night in free-booting, it is his best and surest friend: for lying, as they often do, two or three nights together abroad, to watch for their booty, with that they can prettily shroud themselves under a bush, or a bank-side, till they can conveniently do their errand; and when all is over, he can, in his mantle, pass through any town or company, being close hooded over his head, as he useth, from knowledge of any to whom he is endangered. Besides this, he, or any man else, that is disposed to mischief or villany, may, under his mantle, go privately armed, and without suspicion of any, carry his head-piece, his skean, or pistol, if he please, to be always in readiness. Thus necessary and fitting is a *mantle* for a bad man.” But though *fitted* for all such nefarious purposes, I should hope that the *modern mantle*, or *Irish long coat*, were made use of only for the innocent and cheering purposes of warmth and comfort.

To the female peasant, I would recommend

the adoption of the black beaver hat, which is universally worn in Wales, and gives a look of comfort and neatness; whereas the want of covering to the head, and the cap flying loosely in the wind, with the long flowing hair, give the sex the appearance of maniacs.

Another branch of the peasant's family deserves notice, namely, his sons. By accustoming them from their infancy to run on errands, their limbs require a wonderful degree of strength and activity. I have heard these boys called *Spalpeens*, a word derived from *spal*, a scythe, or sickle, and *een*, small; and which in a literal sense implies a working husbandman, or harvest cutter. The quickness with which they will perform a journey of many miles, and the fidelity with which they execute their commission, is really wonderful.

Let us now take a short view of the general appearance which the surface of the country presents to the tourist. In traversing the dreary tract of twenty-five miles, between BANGOR FERRY and HOLYHEAD, I complained most bitterly of its unvaried *monotony*, and thought it could scarcely be equalled in any other country; but on journeying from my friend's house at MITCHELSTOWN, to the Lake of KILLARNEY, (a distance of 165 Irish miles) I found this *monotony* far surpassed. I complain not of the

bad or uncouth features that form the outline of the country, but I complain of the general want of hedge rows, woods, and timber trees. These are at present confined to the immediate neighbourhood of gentlemen's seats, and the banks of rivers; on which subject, Mr. TIGHE, in his *Survey of Kilkenny*, says, "Though the banks of our rivers may often be beautiful, yet the face of the country, at a distance from them, possessing from nature every capability that variety of surface can give, too often presents, from a mere defect of trees, only a cold outline, or forms ragged and uninteresting."

The *subterraneous* forests (if I may be allowed to use the expression) that are found at a very considerable depth under the surface, evidently prove, that this *defect* could not in former ages be imputed to this country*. These are generally discovered in digging turf from

* Mr. Tighe, in his *Survey of Kilkenny*, states the following curious circumstance respecting some timber found in a bog. "Mr. John Prim, in sinking a pump near his house at Killree, 8 miles from Kilkenny, discovered a bog having timber under it. At the depth of 33 feet from the surface, he found the following strata: 1. Vegetable earth 3 feet; 2. Marle with black stones 15 feet; 3. Yellow clay and hard gravel 15 feet; 4. Bog 10 feet. Total depth 43 feet. Immediately under the bog lay a large block of wood, which appeared to be oak; it was in contact with the bog-earth, or bed of black moory mould, evidently composed of rotten vegetable matters, and was well preserved."

the bogs. The fir timber found therein, bears the highest price, being sold for two guineas the ton, and the oak timber only for one guinea.

We must not form our ideas of the Irish Bog from those we meet with in England*, for they differ totally in their nature, and in the present neglected state of Ireland, where neither trees are planted, nor coals sought for with a proper spirit of investigation, form the greatest comfort of every class of people. Neither is the Bog reduced to a *caput mortuum*, after having been excavated for many feet; for it is afterwards reclaimed and made abundantly productive both of corn and grasses.

* The bogs in Ireland, present in general an extended surface of dry heath, nor after that the turf has been cut to a considerable depth for fuel, are they to be considered as useless; for nature has been so lavish in her fertilizing gifts to this country, that even the bog can be made *doubly* productive, first in fuel, and afterwards in corn. Two modes of procedure are adopted, either by planting potatoes, *gravelling* and sowing oats with grass seeds, or by burning the rough sods, spreading the ashes, *gravelling* and sowing grass seeds. The operation of *gravelling*, is generally beyond the reach of the peasantry; but its effect in producing the white clover, and the sweetest sort of grass seeds, is astonishing. Landlords generally reserve the *right* of bog in their own hands, but the tenants and peasantry obtain leave to cut the necessary quantity for their own consumption.

In surveying the state of agriculture, and the different crops with which the soil is tilled, we shall find that the oat and the potatoe prevail over every other kind of grain: bere also, a large species of barley, that ripens the first of all grain, is much cultivated. The act for allowing the exportation of corn, will probably be the means of bringing more land into tillage, and encrease the culture of wheat. It is impossible not to remark the slovenly state in which the *pastures* are left. On this subject, an Irish agriculturist says, “ Less attention is paid to this object than any other; the pastures in the tillage district, are in general such fields as will no longer bear corn, let out without any seeds, and covered with a few starved and useless plants.”

The Irish method of making hay, though most obstinately defended and approved by the generality of the natives, appears to the English farmer both singular and contrary to reason. Its progress is thus described in the *Statistical Survey of the County of Down*, page 125: “ Hay-harvest extends from the beginning of July, to the beginning of October, including the early crops near towns, and the more backward in the mountainous regions. Saving hay is thus performed: after the mowers, the grass is shaken out, and the day following, if weather permits, it is turned in rows with

rakes and forks ; after which it is made into small cocks, called *lap-cocks*. This operation is thus conducted: One person goes before, with a rake, and takes in as much ground as can be reached ; a small arm-full of the grass, gathered from this space into a ridge, is taken by another person, who closely follows, shakes it, and with the hands and knees, neatly folds it into a small round heap, with a hole passing through it like a muff, and lightly lays it on the ground. In this situation the grass is suffered to remain until sufficiently withered ; in the course of one day, by shaking and turning, it is in a proper state to be put into *tramp-cocks*, which are made of different sizes, and so it is suffered to remain until it is taken in."

Such is the mode almost universally adopted by the Irish in making their hay ; and as an objection to their adopting the English method, they state the extraordinary succulence of their grass, and humidity of their climate, which renders it necessary to expose the hay *in cocks* for a considerable time to the sun and wind ; and this I have seen carried to a great excess in many places, where the *tramp-cocks* have remained for several weeks exposed to all kinds of weather: and as the corn follows the hay harvest at a very short interval, the latter is frequently not put into a rick, before the other is safely housed. The loss of good hay, by the

great surface of *outside* in the *tramp-cocks*, and which are often soaked with rain from top to bottom, must be evident to every one; and I am clear, that if the grass, when cut, was turned *as often* as it is in England, during the heat of the day, there would be no danger in ricking it; but the operation of turning is slightly attended to; and that process only constitutes the difference between good and bad hay.

Some account also of the management of flax may be interesting to the traveller: as from the cultivation of this plant, the northern provinces of Ireland derive their greatest affluence and population. "This plant ripens from the middle of July, to the middle of August, when it is pulled and bound into sheaves of about six or eight inches diameter: if the seed is to be saved, it is drawn through an iron comb, fastened in wood, called a *ripple*, by which means the heads, in which the seed is contained, are taken off: these are dried on a winnow cloth, and the flax tied up in bundles, and steeped from four to twelve days, according to the strength of the flax, or softness of the water, in order to rot the pith and other useless parts. When it has lain a proper time in water, it is taken out, and spread thinly in a new mown meadow, or if steeped in a bog, it is spread on an adjoining heath for ten days or a

fortnight to bleach ; after which it is gathered, tied up in bundles, and brought home, dried in a kiln made for the purpose, and broken with wooden mallets ; it is then tied up in bundles of twenty-one sheaves, about six inches in diameter, and delivered over to the women for its further process, to be scutched, hackled, and afterwards spun." Those who wish for fuller information respecting the flax, &c. will find a sketch of the Linen Manufactory from the importation of the flax seed, until the sale of the linen in a home or foreign market, detailed by Sir CHARLES COOTE in his *Statistical Survey of the County of Monaghan*.

STOCK. Of the larger species of cattle, the long-horned breed of oxen and cows is the most general, though the *Hereford* and *Devon* breeds have been successfully introduced. The breed also of pigs, which in some districts is still very bad, has been materially improved by the introduction of the best sorts from England. The *Kerry* cows are esteemed in dairies, for the quantity of milk they yield. In speaking of them, Mr. TIGHE, in his *Survey of Kilkenny*, says, " I have seen a bull and three dry cows sold for six guineas ; and a bullock and six dry cows, for nine guineas ; and a score has been sold for thirty pounds : lately their prices have risen. Their size does not exceed

that of a moderate sucking calf." The sheep also of the same country are much esteemed for their superior flavour. The common sheep of the country are of a good size and knot. The breed of goats is very numerous, and are kept by the labourers and small farmers, for the use of their milk. They are chiefly white, and resemble the breed of those in North Wales. The horses are very hardy, and patient of fatigue; and I was surprised to see with what apparent ease such half-starved animals could draw my chaise for so many successive miles.

CLIMATE. The climate of Ireland does not seem to have altered much since the days of GIRALDUS, who in the twelfth century describes it as subject to continual rain and clouds. "*Tanta siquidem pluviarum hinc jam inundat ubertas, tanta nebularum et nubium incumbit impuritas, ut vix tres dies vel æstivos continuū serenitate clarescere videas.*" Such I found it in the summer 1806, though in England a finer and drier season was never known. Yet though certainly the Irish climate is much more humid than that of England, and of course rather adverse to scorbutic and rheumatic complaints, yet upon the whole I do not learn that it is generally unwholesome: indeed the healthy and populous appearance of the peasant's hovel, with every disadvantage of closeness and filth on its side, seems

to speak strongly in favour of the climate. Dr. BEAUFORT observes, " that it is rather more variable, and perhaps milder than that of England; the summer less hot, the winter less severe. The air is certainly damper, but this quality is not to be attributed entirely to the bogs which are scattered all over the kingdom, but chiefly to its insular situation, and to the great quantity of moist particles that are wafted from the ocean by the westerly winds, which most frequently prevail. This moisture, however, is not prejudicial to health, neither is the neighbourhood of bogs unwholesome. The bog waters, far from emitting putrid exhalations, like stagnant pools and marshes, are of an antiseptic quality, as appears from their preserving for ages, and even adding to the durability of timber, which we find universally buried beneath their surfaces, and from their converting to a sort of leather, the skins of men and animals, who have had the misfortune of being lost, or remaining in them for any length of time."

The winter season is in general so mild, that stalls for the shelter of cattle are thought useless, and little hay is consumed; which may account in some degree for the want of attention paid to the pastures. BEDE, a writer of the seventh century, speaking of Ireland, says, to the same purport: "*Nemo propter hiemem aut fœna*

secet, aut stabula fabricet jumentis.” “ Let no one cut hay for the winter, nor build stabling for his cattle.”

ROADS and TURNPIKES. It is somewhat singular, that a *turnpike* should be a synonymous term for a *bad* road, and that the *cross* roads should be so remarkably good. These are made by presentment before the Grand Jury at the county assizes in the following manner: “ Before a presentment to mend a road is granted by the Grand Jury, an affidavit must be made by two persons, to say, that they have measured it, and that it is out of repair, and that it will require a certain sum *per perch* to repair the same effectually. This application must be lodged with the clerk of the Grand Jury six days previous to the assizes, to be by him registered, to which registry all persons have access, and where they find a road applied for that does not want repair, they have a power of traversing the presentment. If no such traverse is entered, the parties applying generally get permission to mend it; between which time, and the ensuing assizes, they repair the road, and when accounted for, and audited by the Judge and Grand Jury, they receive the amount. The overseer has five per cent. upon the money expended*.

* *Survey of the County of Meath*, page 359.

In my Preface, I had occasion to remark, that to travel with comfort through Ireland, a man must be independent, as to carriage and horses; all inconveniences will then cease; for he will find excellent roads [except in some few instances] tolerable inns, and better wine and poultry than he will generally meet with on a provincial tour, either in England or Wales.

It has been justly remarked, and with credit to the higher class of society in Ireland, that "it is easier for a stranger to find his way *into* their houses than *out* of them. Abolish the *vale*, or parting token, which the menial servants still in many houses expect, and Irish hospitality will be complete. Neither is the heart of the poorest cottier a stranger to these generous feelings: his jug of milk, and plate of potatoes, are charitably offered, alike to the errand boy, and to the mendicant who appears before his door: in short, charity throughout the whole island supplies the want of poor laws. In gratitude to two unknown Irish gentlemen, it behoves me to record the instances of civility which I, as a *stranger*, received from them. During my Southern Tour, whilst employed in drawing M'CORMAC'S Chapel at CASHEL, a gentleman entered into conversation with me, and we returned together to the inn. Soon afterwards he begged to introduce his friend to

me, who in the most pressing manner invited me to his seat in the neighbourhood, and on the truly urged plea of ill health only, could I decline this friendly and unexpected invitation.

During our Northern Tour, another instance of marked attention occurred. Whilst changing horses at an inn on the road to CAVAN, we entered into conversation with a gentleman who was travelling the same way; and on our arrival at CAVAN, we received from him several letters to his friends on the line of our road, desiring them to point out to us the different beauties, and objects worthy of our notice.

Englishman! do thou likewise!

CONCLUSION. If we look to the temperature of the Irish climate, the fertility of its soil, the bays, æstuaries, and rivers, with which its provinces are intersected; in short, if we consider the numerous and great advantages which nature has profusely lavished upon this island; although we must *at present* lament the want of industry and activity in improving them, yet every one must view with secret satisfaction, the latent riches and succour which the Mother Country may in *future times* derive from the Daughter; and as from their extraordinary fertility, the island of SICILY, was esteemed the

buttery of the Roman Republic, and the *nurse* of the Roman people *; and that of ANGLESEY was called the Mother of Wales; “*Mon mam Cymbry†* ;” so may HIBERNIA in succeeding ages be dignified with titles equally endearing; and equally beneficial both to herself, and to that kingdom with which she has of late been so happily united.

* “*Itaque ille M. CATO cellam penariam reipublicæ nostræ, et nutricem plebis Romanæ Siciliam nominavit.*”

Cicero Actio in Verrem.

† “*Est enim hæc insula (Mona) præ cunctis Cambriæ finibus triticeo germine incomparabiliter facunda, adeo ut proverbialiter dici soleat lingua Britannicâ, “Mon mam Cymbry,” quod Latine sonat “Mona Mater Cambriæ.”*

Giraldus Itin. Cambriæ.

POSTSCRIPT.

MUCRUSS ABBEY. *Journal*, page 71. In my note on the Abbey, now generally known by this name, and whose ruins form a beautiful appendage to the grounds of Mr. HERBERT, I inadvertently committed an error in stating, "that it was not mentioned, either in the large or small *Monasticon*." I have since discovered, that it has been described in each of these works, under the title of IRRELAGH, or IRRIA-LOUGH. The respective authors however differ as to the period of its foundation, and as to the name of its founder; but Sir JAMES WARE agrees with Mr. ARCHDALE as to the founder, (DONALD, son of THADY M'CARTHY,) the date of the building in 1440, and its subsequent reparations in 1468. Mr. ARCHDALE also adds, "that it was reedified by the Roman Catholics in the year 1602;" and Mr. WELD, in his late Description of KILLARNEY, mentions an inscription on the north wall of the chancel of the church, stating it either to have been completely repaired, or rebuilt, in the year 1626. "*Orate pro felici statu fratris THADI HOLENI qui hunc sacrum conventum de novo reparare curavit Anno Domini millesimo sexcentesimo*

vigesimo sexto." See a fac simile of this inscription in Mr. WELD's *Illustrations of the Scenery of Killarney*, page 31.

HOLY CROSS. In my account of this Abbey, [*Journal*, page 146] extracted from the *Monasticon* of Mr. ARCHDALE, I have attributed its foundation to DONOGH *Carbragh* O'BRIEN, King of LIMERICK. The surname of *Carbragh*, or *Caerbreach*, was (according to Mr. LODGE) given to the *third* son of DONOGH, or DONALD O'BRIEN, and appears to have been *here* improperly inserted; for the foundation of the monastery took place (according to WARE) about the year 1169; and according to other writers, in 1181, during the lifetime of the father DONOGH O'BRIEN. Mr. ARCHDALE mentions the first abbot in the year 1182; and DUGDALE recites a grant of land made to this abbey by DONALD, King of LIMERICK, in the presence of the said Abbot GREGORY. My readers are therefore desired to erase the word CARBRAGH at page 146, line 1.

IRISH ITINERARY.

Names of Places.	Names of Inns.	Posthorses	Roads.	Miles.
DUBLIN				
Black Bull Inn	Black Bull	P. horses	Good	10
Trim	Reilly Arms	Do.	Do.	12
Mitchelstown		Do.	Do.	11
Mullingar		Do.	Do.	12
Kilbeggan	Lady Cuffe's	Few	Do.	12
Tallamore	Bury Arms	P. horses	Do.	6
Birr	King's Arms	Do.	Do.	19
Nenagh	New Inn	Do.	Do.	19
Limerick through } Killaloe }	Limerick Hotel, (Swinburne)	Do.	Do.	25
Adair	No Inn	None	Do.	8
Newbridge	Do.	Do.	Do.	8
Tarbert	Good Inn	Do.	Do.	16
Trallee	Devine's Inn	Do.	Do.	25
Killarney	Scanlan's Hotel	P. horses	Hilly	15
Mill Street	Good Inn	Do.	Very bad	16
Cork	Scaig's Hotel	P. horses	Do.	23
Cloyne	No good Inn	None	Good	18
Youghal	Campbell's and How- ard's Hotels	P. horses	tolerable	12
Lismore	New Inn	None	Do.	15
Fermoy	King's Arms	P. horses	Good	15
Mallow	New Inn	Do.	Do.	15
Charleville	Two Inns	Do.	Do.	15
Tipperary	Read's Inn	Few	Do.	21
Cashel	Ryall's Inn	Plenty	Do.	10
Johnstown	A good Inn	Do.	Do.	17
Durrow	Do.	Do.	Do.	8
Ballyroan	Do.	Do.	Do.	8
Emo Inn	Do.	Do.	Do.	9
Kildare	Do.	Do.	Do.	10
Naas	Do.	Do.	Do.	10
Racool	Do.	Do.	tolerable	8
DUBLIN	Leech's Hotel, Kil- dare Str. &c. &c.	Bad h.	Good	8
Maynooth	Large Inn	P. horses	Do.	12
Trim	Reilly Arms	Do.	Do.	14

Names of Places.	Names of Inns.	Posthorses	Roads.	Miles.
Mitchelstown				11
Kells	A good Inn	P. horses	Good	12
Virginia	A decent Inn	Do.	Do.	9
Cavan	Bad Inns	Do.	Hilly	13
Belturbet	Bad Inn	None	Good	8
Enniskillen	Read's Inn	P. horses	Do.	19
Church Hill	Clean but small	Few	Do.	9
Ballyshannon	Execrable	Do.	Do.	14
Donegal	Good Inn	Do.	Hilly	9
Ballybofey	Small and clean	P. horses	Do.	14
Derry	Murray's Inn	Do.	Do.	20
Newtown Limavady	A decent Inn	None	Good	13
Coleraine	Sterling's Inn	P. horses	Do.	10
Causeway				10
Ballymony	A decent Inn	Do.	Do.	7
Ahoghill	Indifferent	Do.	Do.	14
Antrim	Crawford's Inn	Do.	Do.	12
Belfast	Wilson's Hotel	Do.	Do.	12
Hillsborough	Corporation Arms	Do.	Do.	12
Tollymore Park				21
Hill Town	A tolerable Inn	Do.	Do.	8
Ross Trevor	Good Inn	Do.	Do.	6
Newry	King's Arms	Do.	Do.	7
Dundalk	Do.	Do.	Do.	10
Dunleer	Tolerable	Do.	Do.	10
Slane	Good	Do.	Do.	14
New Grange				3
Navan	Tolerable	Do.	Do.	6
Trim	Reilly Arms	Do.	Do.	8
Kilcock	Tolerable	Do.	Do.	11
DUBLIN	Leech's Hotel, &c.	Do.	Do.	16
Irish Miles				810

N.B. 825 Irish miles, by the ratio of 11 to 14, make 1050 English miles; and the above 810 Irish Miles, will make a little more than 1030, English measure; but in travelling through the country, the difference between the length of miles, and the reputed distances between the stages, is very palpable, and often very severely felt.

FINIS.

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